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WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE' PROGRAM

LD302045 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program with moderator Vitaliy Sobolev, All-Union Radio commentator; Gennadiy Gerasimov, APN political observer; and Dmitriy Volskiy, member of the NOVOYE VREMYA Editorial Board]

[Text] [Sobolev] Good morning, comrades. Only 1 day remains till the new year and not only the year: The day after tomorrow the penultimate decade of the 20th century begins. Today I should like to propose to my colleagues: Let us, in talking about current events, try to imagine what these coming years of the 1980's will be like, in the most general terms, of course. Since it is only on the basis of the experience of past years that we can judge the future, I think we must first say a few words about the decade that is ending.

Review of 1970's

In 1971, at the 24th CPSU Congress, the peace program was adopted. In it, our party and government determined the main tasks, the solution of which would enable mankind to secure lasting peace. That program has been consistently and energetically implemented in the foreign policy of our country with the support of the countries of the socialist community. Coordinated action by the fraternal states is playing an ever more important role in the international arena. Strengthening unity, successes in economic and social development, defense of the just cause of the oppressed in various parts of the world: All this has won growing prestige for the socialist community. I think it is very notable that it was precisely in the capital of a fraternal state--at the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the GDR--that Leonid Ilich Brezhnev put forward, in October of this year, his historic peace initiatives. The program of peace adopted by the 24th CPSU Congress and developed and supplemented by the 25th, so precisely and deeply set forth the main tendencies of international life, and corresponds so much to the interests of the people of the whole world, that much of what was said in the decisions of the congress has now become a reality. Independence has been achieved by the peoples of the colonies that existed 10 years ago. In particular, the Portuguese colonial empire has crumbled. The peoples of the three countries of Indochina warded off imperialist aggression, overthrew venal dictatorial regimes and are now successfully building socialism.

[Volskiy] But what I should like to add in connection with Indochina is that precisely in that region, at the end of the 1970's, the moral and ideological bankruptcy of Maoism became especially apparent. Above all, I have in mind what happened in Kampuchea where Pol Pot and the other placemen of the Chinese leadership took Maoism and its practical embodiment to absurd extremes--not to absurdity but, rather, to its logical conclusion, by destroying almost half of the population of their own country. Simultaneously in Indochina, Maoism showed itself nonetheless as an aggressive force, a force hostile to the national aspirations of the peoples and hostile to the cause of national independence when it attacked Vietnam. Incidentally, in that attack something else was also manifested: the fact that the Beijing leadership was unable to achieve success, was unable to demonstrate its strength as it had counted on doing and did not succeed in teaching a lesson.

[Gerasimov] In Europe, too, great changes took place. The treaty between the Soviet Union and West Germany was signed; the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe was held; and then, of course, one must mention Soviet-American relations, such as the signing of the first treaty on the limitation of stretegic arms and then the signing of the second treaty although its fate has not yet been decided.

[Sobolev] Speaking of the main result of the 1970's, it should be said that this has been the decade of the easing of international tension. But the forces of militarism and war do not give up their positions without resistance. That they have become more active has become more noticeable in the second half of the 1970's and especially this year. You will remember the NATO military's Christmas surprise to the peoples of Western Europe--the decision to deploy there nearly 600 American nuclear missiles; and Uncle Sam marked the new financial year by appearing in the role of Santa Claus--the American Father Frost--from whom the American military-industrial complex received record arms allocations and also the 3-year military program. Under that program, U.S. annual military expenditure will rise by nearly 5 percent. The militarization of the dollar reflects a change in U.S. foreign policy plans. Observers and political figures in the United States are now speaking with relief of the end of the Vietnam complex, the Vietnam syndrome. Much is being said and written now about this Vietnam syndrome. The word is foreign to us and more used in medicine than in analyzing international politics. To us it has come from American observers and journalists. In this instance we can also say it in Russian--once bitten, twice shy.

In other words, what is meant is that the United States, having suffered a shameful defeat in Vietnam, has supposedly become overcautious. U.S. President Jimmy Carter, when he came out against this notorious Vietnamese syndrome, said: Not every firm use of force leads to a potential Vietnam; that is to say it should be used, but more cleverly than before. This, of course, contradicts the fundamental principles and norms of international law, but the President did not even mention that. In order that that force should grow and wax stronger, the President proposed his military program which you mentioned just now. What will happen next? The President's national security advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, has told us. He gave an interview in the Christmas issue of the weekly U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, in which he said that in the past 2 decades two-thirds of the world have awakened politically. Well, generally speaking, the world knew this without his help; it is a correct observation. But let us see what conclusions Brzezinski draws. He speaks of the changes that are taking place or that are inevitable in the future and sees in them, as he puts it: A challenge to the geostrategic position of the United States. This means a world before these changes, a world of the mother country and colonies, a world of oppressor and oppressed countries--such a world was fully in accord with the geostrategic position of the United States and suited Brzezinski perfectly. But what has to be done now?

He has two pieces of advice to offer: First he suggests that the United States should adopt a constructive approach to the developing countries and build relations with them in the spirit of cooperation. Good. Second, he demands at the same time a build-up of American strength. That is, on the one hand, something like understanding is being shown, desire for cooperation, on the other, cracking the whip. Brzezinski has not thought up anything new here apart from words. It is the same recipe that American President Theodore Roosevelt used to give--that was the age of American expansion--Theodore Roosevelt's advice was to talk softly but carry a big stick.

[Sabolev] Excuse me, Gennadiy Ivanovich, for interrupting you. Brzezinski was speaking in a specific manner that is characteristic of all the American political hawks. In spite of the fact that Washington's pretensions to world hegemony are meeting with an ever sharper rebuff throughout the world, those hawks are still speaking of international reality as a doctor would speak about his patients, a shepherd about his flock, and the chef about what is boiling on his stove. If what has been boiled up is not to the American taste, it is only because the ingredients have gone into the pot in the wrong quantities: here not enough military might has been poured in, there the advice of the CIA has not been used, resources have been incorrectly used, and so on. But since the chef has all the spices at hand, he will supposedly eventually come up with the desired product. It is as if the liberation struggle of the peoples, anti-imperialist actions, the demand for a more just economic order do not exist, for they are replaced with quite different notions. The selfless struggle of the Nicaraguans against the American placeman Somoza, Brzezinski calls a period of instability and unrest. In order to preserve stability--neocolonialist, dictatorial stability--we, says Brzezinski, are trying to stimulate changes in El Salvador before such changes take on a revolutionary character.

[Gerasimov] Well, in this respect, one can also take Iranian events as an example. When in that country, in 1953, the CIA--the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency--staged a coup and put the shah on the Persian throne, that was a change. But it was entirely in accord with the geostrategic position of the United States. Iran was stuffed with the latest American military technology and given the role of American regional gendarme. The new power in Iran has exposed the imperialist policy of the United States in relations to that country and it's easy to guess that such a power does not correspond to the geostrategic position of the United States as interpreted by Mr Brzezinski.

[Sobolev] Although the stimulation of changes is also included, as we see, in the recipes of the American foreign policy kitchen, it is not the main recipe. The main source of stability in the Near and Middle East according to the assistant to the U.S. President, is American military power. Crude force remains the main tool for preserving regimes acceptable to Washington and the imperialist status quo in other regions also: Central America, and so on. But we can be sure that in the 1980's, however such the United States increases its military might, it will succeed even less in influencing the course of world events.

[Volskiy] Undoubtedly the world is developing in accordance with the general laws governing socioeconomic progress. It moves forward to new heights. But this movement by mankind along the road to progress comes across what you have already spoken about, the so-called geostrategic approach of the United States, or as you put it: the Americans' attempts to point to the direction in which mankind should move. This is why mankind is bringing into the new year and consequently into the new decade a number of highly acute international conflicts.

You know of course that the most dangerous of these are in the Near East, Southeast Asia where Beijing hegemonists continue their aggressive actions and finally in southern Africa. Undoubtedly every one of these conflicts has its own peculiarities. But all of them have something in common and that is the fact that these dramatic collisions combine two entwined factors--the national and the social. That is, on one side there is the people's struggle for their independence and their rights and on the other the confrontation between the forces of progress and reaction. To my mind it is this combination that engenders the highly acute nature of the situation in the areas we have just discussed with you and also the sometimes unexpected paradoxical turning points in events.

What is most striking now in these last few days before the new year in the Near East for example? Undoubtedly, it is the obvious deadlock reached by the so-called Camp David process, that is, the separate deal between Israel and Egypt. What naturally draws attention through its dangerous nature are the events connected with the conflict between Iran and the United States. We have already discussed this today and I shall only note one circumstance; it is that the Western press and ideologists sometimes come up with the following interpretation regarding present American-Iranian relations: Supposedly it is not basically a question, strictly speaking, of a conflict between the United States and the Iranian people, Iran or the Iranian leadership but of the historical clash between Islam and the entire European civilization. This is being done not without ulterior motives. It is sometimes claimed that Islam and Christianity have many points of contact but the Soviet Union being an atheistic state is allegedly far more incompatible with the Muslim world than the United States.

This cowardly and very dishonest approach is meant to conceal the very essence of the state of affairs, that is, the fact that in the Near East and the Middle East a real incompatibility has now been discovered between the neocolonialist aspirations of the United States and the West on the whole and the people's aspirations to safeguard their independence and their right to dispose of their national wealth.

[Sobolev] More people in the developing countries naturally realize this and such a policy is receiving a most decisive rebuff. As a matter of fact, two important meetings took place last year, the conference of the nonalined states in Havana which reaffirmed the strengthening of the anti-imperialist tendencies in the nonalined movement as well as the UNCTAD session in Manila where the contradictions between the developing countries and the industrialized states of the West were once again apparent.

[Volskiy] The transformation of international economic relations on the basic of fairness and mutual advantage is of extraordinary significance for the young states. Naturally there can be no doubt about this, it is clear. But nevertheless this transformation is naturally linked to certain internal processes which are taking place in the young states, that is, those deep socioeconomic shifts which we are witnessing there. After all, what does historical experience testify to? It shows that by themselves such things as financial revenues do not provide an automatic impetus to the development of a state.

It is important to not only have the means but to be able to spend them in the proper manner. The key to this is undoubtedly social change and structural transformations in the public organism of the developing countries on a progressive basis, let us say straight out on the basis of socialist orientation, so that people somehow even change their attitude--particularly to labor--so that they are aware that they are toiling not for white plantation owners or for the local indigenous aristocracy but for themselves and their own good. Thus, it is important to change all the social, political and psychological conditions so that the young states can truly serve their peoples.

[Sobolev] We can see this now in a growing number of young states.

[Volskiy] Today we have mentioned the fall of the Portuguese empire in Africa. Is it a coincidence that virtually all the countries that once belonged to this empire in Africa now choose a path of noncapitalist development, of socialist orientation? Let us take Ethiopia where steps are now being taken to strengthen the progressive regime and to create a vanguard party of working people.

Without any doubt the last decade has shown that in the 1980's too the tendency toward socialist orientation by the young states will strengthen.

[Gerasimov] But it must be said that at the same time the developing countries are having to suffer particularly strong pressure both from the foreign enemies, imperialism and its henchmen, and from internal reaction.

Afghanistan Situation

[Sobolev] The course of socioeconomic transformations is most complicated in those countries which until recently were ruled by monarchical and semi-feudal regimes. Afghanistan, where, as you know, important events are now taking place, could serve as an example of this. The April revolution has entered a new phase.

Let us recall that Babrak Karmal has been elected general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council. The newly announced Revolutionary Council includes the direct participants in the April revolution. A new government has also been formed. At its head is Babrak Karmal, who has also become commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev addressed a message to Comrade Babrak Karmal in which he cordially congratulated him on his appointment to the supreme party and state posts. Comrade Brezhnev's message states: On behalf of the Soviet leadership and myself personally I wish you much success in your many activities for the good of the friendly Afghan people. I am sure that in the present conditions the Afghan people will be able to defend the gains of the April revolution and the sovereignty, independence and national qualities of the new Afghanistan.

It should be added that a session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo took place in Kabul. It examined and endorsed the main directions of Afghanistan's domestic and foreign policy.

The new Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] has released from prison many Afghan citizens including members of the PDPA, military and civilian workers, peasants, and religious and Muslim figures who were illegally arrested and convicted on Amin's orders.

The Afghan Government appealed to the Soviet Union for urgent political, moral and economic aid, including military aid. This request was met. As Radio Kabul reported, its request was prompted by the growing interference and provocations of Afghanistan's foreign enemies. The request was made in order to defend the revolution and the country's territorial integrity and independence, to maintain peace and was made on the basis of the USSR-Afghanistan treaty of friendship and cooperation which was concluded on 5 December 1978.

I would also like to say that a few days ago Comrade Babrak Karmal, in a radio address to the country's population, said that the Revolutionary Council will defend the rights of all classes and society's democratic strata and will seek to create favorable conditions for the Afghan people's life and peaceful labor. At the earliest opportunity, he said, a broad front of all the country's national and democratic forces will be formed under the guidance of the PDPA.

The foreign policy program of the new government expounded by Comrade Karmal envisages positive and active neutrality and friendly relations with all the states of the world and primarily with its neighbors. Afghanistan will support the freedom of peoples and oppose the forces of war, reaction and imperialism.

Judging by the reports now coming out of Kabul this program was received with approval by the Afghan population. The situation in Kabul is calm, a situation which cannot be said to exist in Washington, London and certain other Western capitals.

Regarding their reaction to the events in Afghanistan, the Lebanese newspaper, (AL-QA'IDAH,) wrote: American imperialism is seeking to destabilize the situation in Afghanistan. Facts prove that the Americans are conducting their subversive activities in close cooperation with China.

The Czechoslovak newspaper RUDE PRAVO noted that the imperialists' and Maoists' dangerous calculations in Afghanistan have failed. This is why, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND emphasizes, certain circles are now raising a big ballyhoo. The official representative of the Indian Foreign Ministry announced that his government supports the Afghan people's sovereign right to determine their own fate, including their right to appeal for help to another state when this is necessary.

This, comrades, is how the situation in and around Afghanistan is developing.

Western Perceptions of 1980's

Now I think we could devote some time to the following matter: How do people in the West imagine their prospects in the coming year and the 1980's in general?

[Gerasimov] As for the West, the general tone of new year predictions is pessimistic. Thus, for instance, the West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt is warning of a worldwide crisis in the 1980's. Margaret Thatcher, prime minister of Britain, recalls that she has already called the new decade a dangerous one. American President Jimmy Carter sees in the anxiety, pessimism and worry of Americans that have been recorded in public opinion polls signs, as he put it, of national lethargy and the American historian Arthur Schlesinger sees an alarming increase in tension between the classes. This is just totally different to what Henry Luce said in the article "Discourse About 1980." This article was published in a magazine he edited in December 1955. It then became one of the chapters of a whole book entitled "The Fairytale Future--America in 1980." According to this book it turns out that in America in this coming year of 1980 there ought to have been superabundance and people should have had everything they might wish for--in particular, an abundance of energy. Apparently there remained only--taking it straight from Fedor Dostoyevskiy--to sleep, eat cakes, and fuss about continuing world history.

But of course, according to naive and simple arithmetic, in rich America perhaps everyone could already be given a fairly good piece of the whole cake. But in accordance with the social algebra of the American class society it continues to be divided up into its millionaires and beggars, it continues to have its own palaces and shacks which are in no way open to the middle classes. In the 1970's, the Americans became aware that their country is not all-powerful, that it can run short of energy and other resources and that it cannot be in charge of the world as American influence demands--a similar expression was thought up by Henry Luce in his time.

The Americans became aware that in America the quality of life--and they spoke of this as a genuine criterion for progress--leaves room for improvement. It is not surprising that, as the observer George Will says, for instance, many Americans now regard the future as a closed book which they prefer not to even open.

[Volskiy] But in America probably the most fashionable futurologist, in any case until recently, was considered to be Herman Kahn. He has forecast that the 1980's will be an epoch of lethargy for the United States. In his view there is a murky and colorless period ahead. Here there is not a trace at all of pseudohistorical optimism, none at all, and the problems, in Kahn's view, will remain the same, chronic problems--inflation, energy supply difficulties, murders, nuclear weapon rattling, a deepening of class stratification--although it appears to me that certain of these problems will be even more acute.

[Gerasimov] It is well known that American futurologists pinned a great many hopes on the marvel of technology, that the scientific-technical revolution would be the very thing to solve all problems. This is why it was to be so good.

[Volskiy] As a matter of fact this was one of the reasons why Henry Luce looked at the future so rosily--that science and technology would solve all problems and would remove them. But generally speaking no one is disputing at present that technology will continue to develop, and the same Kahn writes that in the field of technology even astonishing successes will be achieved. But they--again we are quoting Herman Kahn--will have no bearing on the deeper problems which he wrote about and about which we spoke a little earlier. They will not help the blacks in Harlem, they will not stop the deterioration in the situation of the poor--I am still quoting Herman Kahn--and will not reflect on the civil rights of women. Technology, he writes, makes life more comfortable for many but it does not solve basic social problems. This is a very symptomatic admission.

[Gerasimov] It does not solve economic problems, either, because inflation and unemployment...

[Volskiy] It even gives rise to these problems sometimes.

'Crisis of Confidence'

[Gerasimov] By the way I would say that one talks of new features in the present crisis of the American spirit. This can be divided into two parts: domestic policy and foreign policy. In domestic policy the crisis of spirit is manifested in helplessness before the way the economy behaves. This applies, in general, to all countries with a market economy as was stated in Manila, the whole West, to the whole of capitalism. No one knows how to curb inflation, how to reduce unemployment, how to throw a lifebuoy to the dollar which is flowing bubbles. Thus, for instance, there exists a Council of Economic Advisers attached to the President of the United States, but nevertheless, in the view of the magazine FORTUNE, which so to speak has become wiser over the years, taking only its recent issues into account, those people in Washington who are trying to manage the economy do not understand what is taking place.

But as regards the foreign political part of the crisis of the American spirit then, taking a detached view, it can be evaluated as being imaginary, or as particularly subjective relating only to the sphere of this very American spirit because there is a crisis in the former actions about the leading role of America in the world. We have already spoken of this. But this does not mean that America is threatened with something terrible in the international arena if one does not consider that the process itself of adaptation, the process itself of adjusting to changing conditions, is terrible.

The danger, both to the world and to America itself, arises from the provocative lamentation on account of the erosion of American prestige and American power and from the aspiration to make a show of muscle flexing and from the readiness to put ones fists up. This is what Brzesinski said in an interview. We have already been told this.

[Sobolev] Do you not get the impression, Gennadiy Ivanovich, that the American ruling circles view the stepping-up of military preparations by the United States and its military presence in various regions of the world as a method, if not for solving then at least for easing to some extent its economic problems, its difficulties? First, certain bourgeois specialists consider that the militarization of the economy is a kind of surgical interference so as, so to speak, to let out the bad blood of inflation and to increase employment. Second, the game with military muscles in the vicinity of Asian, African and Latin American shores is to guarantee the smooth supplies of cheap raw materials and in general the interests of the transnational monopolies in the developing countries.

[Volskiy] It seems to me that right here we have already come very close to the truth, that the main threat to peace in our time springs from the incapability of the ruling circles in the United States and certain other Western countries to adjust to the objective course of historical development, to somehow adopt their own views and even psychology to it as opposed to the urge to look into the past, to look back to the age of imperialism's omnipotence for which many people, of course, in the West are pining nostalgically.

[Sobolev] But the 1980's will remove us even more from this age despite all the new year presents given to the Pentagon and the West European military clique. The NATO leaders were told in no uncertain terms that their calculations aimed at achieving military supremacy over the countries of the Warsaw Pact will not be carried out. In the countries of the West themselves the movement, the aim of which is to stop the dangerous military preparations of the North Atlantic bloc, is gaining momentum. Thus, summing up the results, I think we can say that the struggle for peace, for strengthening peace, will continue with increasing force. The Soviet peace will function in the 1980's too, despite the intrigues of militarists of all shades. The policy of detente, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said--and everyone knows how much the socialist countries have done for it to succeed--has given rise to great hopes. These must be justified. We are in favor of freeing the 1980's from a war of nerves, from suspicion and fear and what is most important from the arms race.

Comrades: I bid you farewell until we meet in the new year and in the new decade. The participants in today's broadcast wish you happiness, health and successes. Thank you for your attention.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL BEGINS DISCUSSION OF IRAN

ID301228 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

[Text] New York, December 30, TASS--The United Nations Security Council started discussing on Saturday the Iranian-U.S. conflict at the request of the United States which is insisting on the application of sanctions against Iran in connection with the holding of 50 U.S. hostages in the United States Embassy in Tehran.

At the consultations held before the official meeting, the United States rejected the draft resolution suggested by nonaligned countries. The draft resolution envisaged that if Iran does not comply with the resolution of the Security Council calling for the release of hostages, a new meeting should be convened to decide on effective measures in accordance with appropriate articles of the United Nations Charter. The United States delegation insisted on including the reference to the Charter's Article 41 which envisages complete or partial rupture of economic relations and other contacts as well as stopping diplomatic relations.

It is expected that at the meeting of the Security Council, to be held today, the United States will officially suggest the draft resolution containing the reference to this article.

Speaking at the meeting of the Security Council, U.S. State Secretary Cyrus Vance said, specifically, that his government deems it necessary to adopt a resolution which would condemn Iran's refusal to fulfill the decisions that have already been adopted by the Security Council and the International Court and that call for immediate release of all hostages. The resolution must also envisage two additional steps: First, to suggest to the United Nations Secretary-General to intensify his mediatory activities, bearing in mind his readiness to leave for Tehran and to present to the Security Council an appropriate report within a preset period.

Second, it must contain the decision that if the hostages are not released by the time the Security Council gathers within a preset period, the council will adopt a decision on the introduction of concrete sanctions on the basis of the Charter's Article 41....

Our patience was severely taxed in the recent weeks, Cyrus Vance said. He stressed that the United States is prepared to resort to "other means" to achieve its aims, which was regarded here as a hint at military "solution" of the conflict. At the same time, the state secretary repeated that the United States refuses to consider Iran's complaints until the hostages are released.

As is known, Iran is justly demanding the extradition of the shah so as to try him for his crimes and the return to Iran of fabulous riches that were plundered by the deposed monarch and his family and were placed in Western, mainly American, banks.

Speaking at the meeting, United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim stressed that he maintains contacts with the Iranian authorities and is prepared to go to Tehran if such a trip can serve "useful and constructive aims".

Political observers note that the demand of sanctions is an action aggravating and escalating the conflict between the United States and Iran since this involves other states in the conflict. Going by speeches at the meeting of the Security Council, this course by Washington does not receive complete support even among Western allies of the United States. Thus, for example, the FRG's representative passed in silence the question of sanctions, though he supported the demand for the release of the hostages.

Representatives of Britain, France, Norway, Portugal, Australia and Singapore also spoke at the meeting.

The Security Council will continue discussing the U.S.-Iranian conflict.

Washington, December 30, TASS--According to the Washington POST, the United States suggested a respite in the efforts for the introduction by the Security Council of the economic sanctions against Iran for the period while that [as received] Kurt Waldheim makes another attempt to bring about the release of American hostages in Tehran. This step means, the newspaper asserts, that the United States at present does not have the necessary nine votes in the 15 member-council for adopting the resolution on sanctions.

At the same time, the United States continues stepping up pressure on Iran, threatening to use military power. As the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL reported, the atomic aircraft carrier Forrestal on a visit in the French port Marseilles was ordered to urgently leave the port and sail for the Mediterranean. Quoting officials, the UPI stresses that this order is connected with the U.S.-Iranian crisis. Forrestal is the flagship of the U.S. Sixth Fleet and was to remain in Marseilles till January 4 of next year.

By now the United States has already concentrated two naval formations numbering 21 ships near the shores of Iran. They are led by Kitty Hawk and Midway aircraft carriers having over 150 fighter bombers and combat helicopters on board. The atomic aircraft carrier Nimitz accompanied by several warships of the U.S. Navy is also on the way to Iran.

U.S. Demand for Sanctions

BK301455 Moscow in Bengali to India 1100 GMT 30 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The U.S.-Iran conflict was discussed in the UN Security Council yesterday. The U.S. secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, demanded the introduction of economic measures against Iran as a prelude to a fresh attempt to release the U.S. hostages held in Tehran.

Foreign news agencies report that during the preliminary discussions at the Security Council the nonalined countries hinted that they were against anti-Iran steps and favored a diplomatic solution of the conflict.

Members of the Security Council have supported the plan to send UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to Tehran. The Security Council session has adjourned until today.

[The above item was also carried by Moscow in Urdu at 1200 and 1300 GMT on 30 December.]

Failure of Proposal

BK301457 Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh 1300 GMT 30 Dec 79 BK

[Text] At the UN Security Council session the United States failed to impose its proposal for economic steps against Iran. During the preliminary discussions the representatives of the nonalined countries hinted that they were against anti-Iran measures and were in favor of solving the U.S.-Iran conflict through diplomatic channels.

A number of Security Council members supported a visit to Tehran by UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, who expressed his willingness to make such a visit.

The discussion among members of the Security Council will continue today.

CAMPAIGN INTENSIFIES FOR SUPPORT OF 'CRUDE PRESSURE' ON IRAN

LD281807 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1647 GMT 28 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Washington, 28 December (TASS)--The United States is intensifying its campaign of crude pressure on Iran and is developing measures of a military character together with economic sanctions. In Tampa, Florida U.S. Secretary of Defense H. Brown announced the appointment of a deputy head of the Marine headquarters, Maj Gen P. Kelly, as commander of a special planning group within the framework of the "quick reaction corps" created by the Pentagon. Clarifying the appointment of this corps, AP writes that it is a case of "special troops for imposing order, which could be transferred quickly to any part of the world and receive their military equipment from ships in friendly ports."

The U.S. press connects pushing through plans for the creation of the "quick reaction corps" primarily with the U.S.-Iranian conflict and the general situation in the oil-rich Near East and Persian Gulf region. U.S. President J. Carter has called a session of the National Security Council for today to discuss the administration's course in this region, having cut short his holiday in the out-of-town residence of Camp David.

There will be a meeting today between the President and E. Weizman, Israeli minister of defense, who is on a visit to Washington and who earlier conducted talks with U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance and Secretary of Defense H. Brown. The talks, as the press points out, are focusing attention on "coordinating the policies of the sides in the present crisis situation" and on further increasing American military and economic assistance to Tel Aviv. Observers note that Israel's "value" to the United States has particularly increased after the downfall of the shah's regime in Iran--in the past one of the closest allies of Washington.

While simultaneously preparing military measures the United States wants the Security Council to introduce economic sanctions against Iran. The American press points out that the United States wants to foist on the Security Council economic sanctions against Iran such as a total embargo on exports from this country of all goods transported on Iranian vessels and also on supplies of the majority of goods Iran needs, and a ban on UN member countries receiving Iranian vessels and planes and granting credits to Iran. At the same time a blockade against Iranian oil exports is not envisaged since many allies of the United States, including the West European countries and Japan, depend on its supplies. UPI notes that if the United States does not succeed in getting these measures through the Security Council, it intends to try to achieve agreement on the introduction of a trade embargo against Iran from the economically developed countries of the West.

Tokyo, 28 December (TASS)--The paper ASAHI reports that the leaders of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs have stated that "Japan would like to avoid at all costs a sea blockade of Iran by the United States," and "possibly will appeal to the United States to refrain from doing this."

Consultations at UN

LD291348 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] According to reports from New York, consultations have begun there between members of the UN Security Council on questions pertaining to the introduction of economic sanctions against Iran.

The United States has insisted on convoking the Security Council. Observers are noting that the request of the United States to the council is complicating the American-Iran conflict by involving other countries in it.

'Intimidation and Threats'

LD291752 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1636 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Washington, 29 December (TASS)--The United States is attempting to impart an international character to the campaign of crude pressure on Iran it has unleashed by trying to get the UN Security Council to approve the anti-Iranian front being knocked together by Washington and to introduce economic sanctions against Iran.

U.S. President J. Carter, speaking in the White House, stated that he has instructed Secretary of State C. Vance to go personally to the United Nations to ensure that the Security Council adopts anti-Iranian sanctions. The President openly threatened Iran by stating that it will have to "pay more" the longer it holds the hostages. The United States, Carter stressed, retains the right to take any measures it considers necessary "to defend American citizens and its vital interests."

The American press points out that in their attempts to prevail on Security Council members to support the American position, the United States has resorted to the tactic of intimidation and threats. "The representative of the United States at the United Nations, writes the New York TIMES, has warned that if the United Nations fails to adopt anything, the U.S. Navy in the Arabian Sea will blockade the Persian Gulf."

The French paper L'HUMANITE writes in connection with the United States actions: "President J. Carter has decided to use all his influence to get the Security Council to introduce an economic blockade of Iran." However, continues the paper, judging by everything, he has not been successful, and is now turning the issue into one of "unilateral economic sanctions by the United States, to be maintained by the U.S. Navy deployed in the region."

C. Maqsud, Arab League permanent observer at the United Nations, has come out against discussion in the Security Council of any kind of sanctions against Iran. This kind of discussion will reduce the chances of a peaceful solution to the conflict, he said at a press conference in UN headquarters. The Arab states consider that the UN secretary general should be given the mission of setting up a forum to consider Iran's complaints, C. Maqsud stated. They support the idea of giving Iran the chance of justifying its accusations against the shah's regime at an international legal forum.

Pointing out the United States' preparation for military actions against Iran, the New York TIMES recalls that at present powerful U.S. naval forces are concentrated in the Arabian Sea: 21 warships [boyevoy korabl], including the attack aircraft carriers [udarnyy avianosets] Midway and Kitty Hawk.

Apart from this, the nuclear aircraft carrier Nimitz is now on its way from the Mediterranean to this region accompanied by two missile cruisers. The paper stresses that in the event an instruction is received to carry out "a punitive operation," a blow can be inflicted from the U.S. aircraft carriers against naval and air force bases and other targets on Iranian territory.

According to news agency reports, the port call of the U.S. aircraft carrier Forrestal in the French port of Marseille, which is there on a "friendly visit," has been cut short. It has been ordered to return urgently to Naples where the headquarters of the U.S. 6th Fleet is located. Observers are linking this order with the transfer of the aircraft carrier Nimitz to the Arabian Sea. In its absence, the Forrestal must ensure "appropriate support" for anti-Iranian actions from the Mediterranean.

As for the Washington visit of Weizman, Israeli war [as received] minister, the American press writes that the talks which J. Carter had with him in the White House concerned, in particular, the events in Iran and also the situation in the Near East and in the region of the Persian Gulf as a whole. The Washington STAR points out that the sides have discussed "the problems of tactical coordination" of joint operations in the region. As is known, on the eve of Weizman's visit to the United States, Tel Aviv officially offered Washington use of Israeli military bases and installations without any restrictions whatever.

President as-Sadat expressed readiness to make available Egyptian territory and military bases for the U.S. Armed Forces. In an interview with the Cairo journal OCTOBER, he emphasized that Egypt would create all the necessary conditions for the American units, should the Persian Gulf countries "wish to avail themselves of U.S. aid."

Facts indicate that J. Carter is exploiting the U.S.-Iranian crisis to strengthen his own personal position on the eve of the 1980 presidential elections. Thus, by referring to the crisis, he has cancelled his planned participation in television debates on 7 January between the main contenders for the post of president from the Democratic Party. Certain press organs say the reason for the President's decision is that it was planned to focus main attention in these debates on domestic economic problems facing the United States, that is, on a sphere which the present administration has nothing to brag about.

Departure of Forrestal

LD302120 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Washington--The United States continues to step up pressure on Iran, threatening the use of military force. As the UPI news agency has reported, the atomic aircraft carrier Forrestal, which has been on a visit to the French port of Marseilles, has received instructions to leave the port urgently and set off into the Mediterranean. The agency stresses, quoting official persons, that the instructions are connected with the American-Iranian crisis. The Forrestal is the flagship of the U.S. 6th Fleet and was due to be in Marseilles until 4 January next year.

At the present moment the United States has concentrated two naval units numbering 21 ships off the shores of Iran. They are headed by the aircraft carriers Kitty Hawk and Midway with over 150 fighter bombers and combat helicopters on board. The atomic aircraft carrier Nimitz, accompanied by a number of U.S. warships, is also heading for Iran.

COMMENTATORS DECRY U.S. PLANS TO INCREASE DEFENSE SPENDING

Kozyakov Commentary

LD281754 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 28 Dec 79 LD

[Text] It has been announced in Washington that Maj Gen Paul Kelly has been named as commander of the rapid deployment force. Our observer Vladislav Kozyakov comments.

The Pentagon clearly hurrying to set up an armed force for rapid dispatch to various parts of the world, the Persian Gulf area first and foremost. The plans have just been officially announced. They have not yet been discussed by Congress and the United States public has hardly been able to make out in the details what these plans actually signify. The administration is already forming the force, which it's been specified will be comprised of anything from a battalion to an army corps of more than 100,000 servicemen. It's also been announced that the force will be augmented with hundreds of naval vessels, cargo planes and be supplied with various kinds of weapons. The force will have its headquarters in MacDill, Florida, and Maj Gen Kelly, whom the President nominated for promotion to lieutenant general, has been appointed the commander.

As usual in such cases the new Pentagon move is accompanied with the threadbare allegations of a mythical Soviet threat. Such allegations were repeated Thursday by Defense Secretary Brown, who was speaking in Tampa on the setting up of the rapid deployment force. But it's only too obvious that the Carter administration is now banking on a show of force, on intimidating other peoples and on armed interference in their internal affairs. The concoctions about mythical threats are used in an attempt to justify these moves.

In the Caribbean there has been a continuing U.S. military demonstration involving 18 naval vessels and marines landed at Guantanamo. In the Persian Gulf area there are 21 naval vessels and 350 planes based on aircraft carriers. Yet another one, the Nimitz, is steaming for the area with 80 planes on board. Meanwhile, the United States is working to secure new military bases in the area in Somalia, Oman, Kenya and Israel. In a word, the speedy creation of a rapid deployment force is a component part of the dangerous militarist line to which the Washington administration is increasingly reorienting.

Incidentally, the idea of creating such forces had been rejected in the United States before too. In the 1960's such a scheme was proposed by Robert McNamara, the then Pentagon chief. However, his proposal was rejected by Congress. Even then in the cold war years the Senate's Armed Services Committee objected to setting up such formations because that could create the impression of America emerging in the role of world policeman. But now the Carter administration is openly assuming this function. U.S. armed demonstrations are going ahead full speed off the coasts of other countries, and rapid deployment forces are quickly being set up, a move that indicates a dangerous imperialist scheme.

U.S. Press Criticism

ID292036 Moscow TASS in English 1907 GMT 29 Dec 79 ID

[Text] New York December 29, TASS--The new military five-year program of the U.S. administration testifies to Washington's intention to broaden the scale of its interventionist policy.

Especially drastic shifts, New York TIMES points out in this connection, are in the making in the U.S. policy in the Middle East. The administration officials, the newspaper says, are of the view that the democratic changes at work in the [words indistinct] must be responded with a further build up of U.S. military might in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

U.S. President Carter and his national security advisers are laying increasing stress on the quick reaction forces to handle Third World crises which jeopardise U.S. interests, writes Baltimore SUN.

Magazine NATION has condemned the so-called "new" U.S. policy in Latin America and the interventionist plans in that part of the world.

The makers of U.S. policy, the magazine says, are obsessed with the need to prevent any changes in the Caribbean basin and [words indistinct] America. They are prepared to take any measures however repressive or unjust they may be.

U.S. policy, NATION notes, has brought tragedy to many countries of Latin America. In the last decades, it has left [words indistinct] of bloody events in many countries of the continent beginning with the 1965 intervention in Dominican Republic and the interference in the internal affairs of Chile which led to the overthrow of the government of Salvador Allende.

The new strategy of the Carter administration, the magazine (?stressed), represents a continuation of this dangerous policy. It has a counter-revolutionary, interventionist thrust and is an aggressive strategy. NATION recalls that, of late, the U.S. Government took a number of steps creating a threat in the Caribbean basin. It has resumed flights of spy planes over Cuba, increased military [words indistinct] that area, created a new headquarters for the Caribbean task force in Key West, and staged "demonstration exercises" of U.S. Marines in Guantanamo, etc. The U.S. makers of the new policy feel the temptation of a military intervention. But it would not be easy to carry it out. Times have changed in Latin America, the magazine concludes.

Caracas, December 29 TASS--The U.S. five-year military program, announced by U.S. President Carter confirms once again that Washington intends to continue to discharge the function of a world policeman. This program poses a serious threat to peace and is (?against) detente and peaceful coexistence, said Cruz Villegas, president of the United Center of the Working People of Venezuela.

Crus Villegas pointed out that Venezuelan public resolutely condemns the military course of Washington which clearly runs counter to the interests of peoples working to establish a lasting peace on earth.

Orlov Viewpoint

LD292134 Moscow TASS in English 1808 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Moscow December 29 TASS--TASS political news analyst Igor Orlov writes:

The bellicose five-year programme which was announced by President Carter two weeks ago to build up armaments and the armed forces and which envisages an escalation of the military budget by mid-eighties up to 250,000 million dollars is prompting many researchers and commentators to come to the conclusion that those means will be used to an increasing extent for a step-up of interference in the affairs of other countries and peoples. It is for these purposes that provision is made for so called rapid-reaction corps and further expansion of U.S. military bases, particularly in the areas in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf.

In this connection many turn more and more often to the survey made within the framework of the Brookings Institution by Barry Blackman and Steven Caplan.

According to their estimates, in the period from 1946 to 1975, the USA resorted to the use of the armed forces to achieve their foreign-policy goals 215 times. Itemising their survey, the authors point out, for example, that U.S. landing troops were used for the purposes 71 times. In 19 cases the USA even threatened with nuclear weapons.

It should be emphasised that most often Washington acted not at the request of national governments but contrary to their will, violating the sovereignty and independence of states, i.e. flagrantly violated the basic principles of international law.

It is these facts of striving for hegemonism, for assuming the role of world gendarme that gave ground to T. Koffin, an American historian and publicist, to draw the conclusion that America is not and has never been a peace-loving country. All that America needed, it captured by force, though at times muttering soul-saving prayers.

It is no wonder therefore that the new five-year arms escalation programme proclaimed by Washington aroused concern among the world public at large. The plans which are being worked out by the Pentagon for the use of a rapid-reaction corps, and other bellicose projects basically contradict the vital interests of other countries and peoples that are resolved to uphold their freedom and independence, get rid of monopolies' yoke which is being imposed on them, and to follow the lines of national independence and social progress.

Zorin Statement

ID300220 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 29 Dec 79 ID

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] We are not only at the threshold of a new year, but also of a new decade, so it's natural to want to gaze into the future. Millions of people around the world are wondering both with anxiety and with hope what the future holds. Everyone holds different expectations, but I would imagine there is one desire most people have no matter where they live or what their religion, race, ideology, or social background are. That desire is to live in peace.

Most people throughout history have strived for peace, but today that yearning is not only a reflection of goodwill but also of basic commonsense. Never before has the menace of war threatened the existence of humanity and all civilization. For the first time in history a mistake made by a politician or a government leader could affect the lives of all people on earth. Several countries, primarily the United States and the Soviet Union, already have an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction that if unleashed could leave our planet as deserted as the moon. The stakes have become unusually high and the price of a politician's mistake is horrifying.

In thinking about the need for peace the people are pondering on the ways to make stable peace a reality and how to do away with the morbid shadow of military threat. Apparently, Washington believes the way to peace is by stockpiling more nuclear missiles. Just before Christmas President Carter played Santa Claus and decided to give his fellow Americans a 5-year plan to increase Pentagon spending.

By the way, I'd like to call attention to the kind of audience the President chose to publicize this plan. It wasn't a meeting of ordinary constituents or even a television appearance.

Jimmy Carter invited the heads of big corporations and banks to the White House to receive the Christmas gift. No doubt among those who heard the President's White House speech on 12 December there were people who took the plan as a real gift. After all, the hundreds of millions of dollars taxpayers will give up in the next 5 years to finance the new military program will eventually end up in the pockets of those who own corporations in the war industry.

As for the overwhelming majority of Americans this Christmas surprise will bring nothing but more hardships. The prospect of greater hardships is bad enough alone, but that's only one aspect of the problem. The other aspect, the more important one in my opinion, is that the leaders in Washington, by escalating the arms race, are demonstrating their desire to solve problems in the United States in the next decade by increasing confrontation and the menace of war.

But this is hardly the way to insure peace and security worldwide or in the United States. What will result from the accumulation of more arms in the United States? The Pentagon is figuring to achieve military superiority in hope of protecting the United States from the apocalyptic consequences of thermonuclear war. A look at the past, however, shows that the numerous attempts made by the American military-industrial complex to gain superiority over other countries, and primarily the Soviet Union, were failures. All they brought was the burden of over a trillion dollars on taxpayers.

As we approach the 1980's the U.S. Government is claiming its national security is threatened, just as it maintained before the 1950's, '60's and 70's. The Soviet Union is loyal to the cause of world peace and has suggested numerous ways to end the arms race while ensuring its own national security. Every new military program in Washington has prompted the Soviet Union to respond with corresponding measures, and I stress the word "respond".

The Soviet Union has exhausted all its arguments to persuade the United States to accept its proposals for the relaxation of international tension. Since President Carter plans to go on boosting the military budget, the Soviet Union will respond by doing all it can to dispel the hopes the Pentagon has of gaining military superiority over the USSR. The scientific and technological capabilities of a socialist planned economy will certainly ensure success in these efforts. But this will raise the mountain of weapons of mass destruction and as it is there are plenty of these weapons to destroy all life on earth. Yet in the next decade there will be even more.

Will this instill confidence and security in the Soviet and American people, or the people of other countries? Of course not. We will only waste tremendous amounts of money and resources and won't come one step closer to real security. Living on a powder keg is not only exorbitantly expensive but is neither sensible nor safe. A recent false military alarm set off at American military bases served as a warning of the catastrophic consequences of the arms race and war hysteria.

This new situation facing humanity requires a different level of political thinking, an ability fo refrain from wornout dogmas as stereotypes and a responsible approach to problems. Unfortunately, the political moves Washington had made in the 1970's don't indicate that kind of thinking. It seems as though some politicians are more concerned about immediate political considerations and pre-election interests than their responsibility to their own people and to history.

On the eve of the 1980's, I'd like to wish listeners in the United States happiness and prosperity, and I'd like to express my hope that in the next decade the Washington scene will be dominated by new political ideas that are so necessary for the peace and security of nations. Happy New Year.

PLANS FOR U.S., S. KOREAN, JAPANESE MILITARY ALLIANCE HIT

LD281659 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Dec 79 p 3 LD

[V. Vinogradov "Military Political Commentary": "Knocking Together a 'Triangle'"]

[Text] Recently General G. Takeda, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Japanese "Self-Defense Forces" went to South Korea on an official visit. He held talks with the leaders of the armed forces on questions of broadening military contacts, visited military units deployed near the DPRK border and South Korean military bases and installations. Commenting on the results of this visit by the Japanese general to the Korean Peninsula, observers assessed it as a concrete step in the realization of plans for the further expansion of Japanese-South Korean military cooperation.

It has already been noted that recently Tokyo has, with Washington's patent blessing, been displaying heightened activity in establishing close military links with South Korea which is unconditionally following the lead of American policy. This was particularly graphically demonstrated during the visit to South Korea in the fall of this year by G. Yamashita, the then chief of the Japan Defense Agency. He held talks with the defense minister in Seoul which were the first official contacts between the supreme military leaders of the two countries in the entire postwar period. As the newspaper YOMIURI noted, G. Yamashita was faced with the task of consolidating Japanese-South Korean military cooperation proceeding from Tokyo's official line that "South Korea's security is important to the security of Japan itself."

One cannot fail to see that this official line proclaimed by Japanese ruling circles is not devoid of prompting from the United States. The authors of the American Far East strategy are by no means adverse to knocking together another military bloc in this region of the world--in this case a military triangle linking Washington, Tokyo and Seoul. Two of its sides already existed: the very active American-Japanese and the American-South Korean military cooperation backed up by the existence of American bases and American troops on the territory of both countries. Now the construction of the third side has begun: the organization of Japanese-South Korean military cooperation.

It is taking place with the Pentagon's direct participation. Thus American military visitors, when heading for the Far East, have to visit both Tokyo and Seoul. The Pentagon has started to hold joint exercises simultaneously both with the Japanese and the South Korean armies, during which the identical operations are rehearsed. For example, during the latest of these militarist demonstrations it was an operation to repel the "threat from the north."

The United States, clearly upset by the situation which has arisen in the south of the Korean Peninsula, is not only taking steps to consolidate military ties with South Korea but is urging Japan to join in these links. Hence the increasingly frequent visits of Japanese military figures to South Korea. The trip by Gen G. Takeda, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the "Self-Defense Forces", to Seoul also serves as a confirmation precisely of this. After all, such a visit cannot be regarded as anything other than a kind of support for the shaken Seoul regime. The United States is also insisting that Japan should considerably increase its financial and economic aid to South Korea which Seoul is using to increase the country's military potential. And Tokyo is increasingly yielding to these demands.

The Asian public is expressing serious anxiety in connection with the dangerous plans of the American military clique, Japanese reaction and the South Korean puppets for knocking together a trilateral military alliance. Expressing this concern, the organ of the Korean Workers' Party Central Committee, NODONG SINMUN, wrote that the goal of this military bloc consists in "...preserving and strengthening the positions of imperialism and reaction and waging a struggle against the forces of socialism and national revival."

ARREST OF SOUTH KOREAN OPPOSITION LEADERS CRITICIZED

SK281307 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 27 Dec 79 SK

[Text] The South Korean regime in Seoul is violating its own pledge to liberalize all political activities at home about which it had made noisy propaganda.

The South Korean regime has brought charges against two opposition leaders. One is the former South Korean president, Yun Po-son, and the other is Ham Sok-hon, leader of the National (?Council) for Democracy and National Reunification. They were indicted for organizing an antigovernment rally last month. The prosecutor of the martial law command said that they will be sternly punished. It is noted that 12 other activists who are striving to restore democracy of the nation and to abolish various evil laws which were adopted under the rule of the dictator Pak Chong-hui and are pushing ahead with amendment of the Constitution, will be indicted for antistate activities.

MONGOLIA APPRECIATES SOVIET AID TO AFGHAN PEOPLE

LD292234 Moscow TASS in English 2212 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, December 29, TASS--The Presidium of the People's Great Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic today ratified at its meeting the treaties of friendship and cooperation between Mongolia and the SRV, between Mongolia and Laos. The documents promote the cause of building socialism and serve the interests of strengthening the unity of the world socialist community, Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural, said at the meeting.

Touching upon the international situation, the speaker said that Mongolia considers it urgently necessary to take all measures internationally to actively counteract the realisation of imperialism's aggressive designs and to multiply efforts to achieve a decisive turn towards military detente and disarmament. The Mongolian people, Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal pointed out, expresses solidarity with the struggle of the friendly Afghan people in defence of and for the strengthening of the gains of the April revolution, against encroachments by internal and external reaction. The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the Mongolian Government fully support and highly appreciate the Soviet Union's internationalist aid to the Afghan people at the request of the government of the DRA.

In conclusion he pointed out that the rulers of the PRC together with the USA and other reactionary circles are giving a boost to their expansionist and hegemonist intrigues against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, and the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

This is why it is important as never before that the unity and solidarity of the countries of the socialist community and all peaceloving countries and peoples with the fraternal peoples of Indochina be further strengthened, Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal emphasized.

MOSCOW REPORTS FURTHER STATEMENTS BY NEW AFGHAN LEADER

Karmal Appeal to People

LD291406 Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

["Address by Babrak Karmal"--TASS headline]

[Text] Kabul, December 29, TASS--General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal delivered on Kabul radio an address to the country's population. He said in part:

On behalf of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council, the state and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on the occasion of the overthrow of the regime of Hafizollah Amin, this blood-thirsty spy of U.S. imperialism, oppressor and dictator, I am greeting you, the much-suffering compatriots, the worthy Muslims of Afghanistan, Sunni and Shi'ite, ulemas and clergy, soldiers and officers of the heroic army of the motherland, the national tradesmen and businessmen, patriotic landowners, industrious craftsmen, Afghanistan's tribes whose peace had been violated, shepherds and nomads of our motherland, public servants, intelligentsia and progressive youth, workers and peasants, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, who had up till now lived under the yoke of the executioner and murderer, the charlatan of history Amin and his henchmen. I greet and congratulate you.

I declare to the whole world that a link in the chain of despotism--the regime of Amin and his henchmen--has been destroyed in the heart of Asia. The one-man and bloody regime of this traitor of the people and the motherland collapsed under the weight of its crimes, and a line has been drawn under his brutal adventures.

The Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, guided by the principles and aims of the great April revolution, and relying on the will of the freedom-loving and fetter-destroying people of Afghanistan, on the victorious uprising of the party, on the support of the patriotic soldiers and officers of Afghanistan, has again taken state power into its hands.

The Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan states with resolution and conviction that it will safeguard freedom and genuine inviolability of the person, freedom for political prisoners, genuine democracy, jobs for the unemployed, improved labour conditions for workers, land for peasants. The Revolutionary Council will ensure favourable and safe conditions for the return of those compatriots who as a result of the bloody oppression by the Amin regime have fled their motherland. The question of persons who have taken up arms against the government will be settled by political means.

The Revolutionary Council will safeguard and protect the rights of all classes and democratic strata of society--soldiers, workers, peasants, the clergy, craftsmen, petty and medium landowners, national tradesmen and businessmen, teachers and scientists, doctors, engineers, workers of culture, public servants and other compatriots. The Revolutionary Council will strive to create favourable conditions for life and peaceful work, to meet the life requirements of the population of town and countryside.

The Revolutionary Council will respect the rights of all nationalities and peoples of Afghanistan, assure a genuine respect and guarantees for the sacred religion of Islam and the clergy, the lofty national traditions and customs, the family ties and personal property.

The Revolutionary Council will make the Amin criminals face a wrathful trial by the people and subject them to a lawful and just condemnation. It will reimburse the moral and material damage and repay for the blood of thousands of representatives of the industrious Afghan people. The Revolutionary Council calls on you, heroic soldiers, sergeants and officers of the motherland to fearlessly defend, no matter where you are, the great April revolution from all the schemes of the internal and external enemies. The Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will do everything to eliminate the crisis and internal tension, to protect the honour and dignity of the nation and motherland, to settle the problem of the persecuted people who were forced to abandon their native places.

Be vigilant, disciplined and united. Do not permit enemies of the freedom, independence and territorial integrity of the motherland to penetrate your ranks. Your national and revolutionary government will take measures to meet all the requirements of the liberation national army of Afghanistan, to improve the position of the families of servicemen, to protect the rights of party workers and public servants, military and civilian persons, who have not opposed and are not opposing the interests of the people and of the great April revolution.

Dear compatriots.

The Revolutionary Council declares that state power in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan belongs to the whole people. At the first opportunity, a broad front will be created of all the national and democratic forces under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the party of the working class and all working people. All democratic freedoms will be guaranteed, including the freedom to create progressive patriotic parties and people's organisations, freedom of the press, freedom of expression and assembly. Revolutionary Afghanistan will pursue a peaceful foreign policy, a policy of positive and active neutrality. On the basis of the principles of the policy of peace and friendship among peoples it will develop friendly relations with all nations and states of the world, and in the first place--with its neighbours. Afghanistan will strive to eliminate misunderstanding in relations with other states. In the international arena, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will, together with the forces of peace, work for the freedom of the peoples, independence of nations and progress, against the forces of war and reaction, imperialism, against those who sow discord and violence, will be a loyal and active member of the United Nations, of the non-alignment movement, a true friend and associate of the Muslim working people of the world. Afghanistan reaffirms its commitment to all the treaties and agreements concluded with other countries and to the U.N. Charter.

Friends and comrades.

The liberation national army of Afghanistan.

Our struggle is a great and just struggle. It is a struggle of the people of Afghanistan for justice and good. May you be inspired in this struggle by the images of the valiant great ancestors, by the images of those who have given their lives for the freedom of our glorious and proud country, the beloved Afghanistan, by the images of the matyrs who perished in the great April revolution--the leaders, our comrades, N.M. Taraki, M.A. Haibar and other heroic comrades who gave their lives for the revolution.

Forward, to the attainment of the aims of the great April revolution, to peace and freedom, to independence and democracy, to work and struggle, progress and wellbeing, equality and brotherhood, justice and happiness of the people of Afghanistan. Under the banner of the great April revolution, forward along the path of universal and full unity, to the final victory of the national, democratic, antifeudal, and anti-imperialist revolution, forward towards the creation of a new free and independent Afghanistan.

30 December Karmal Statement

LD301415 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1324 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

["Statement by Babrak Karmal"--TASS headline]

[Text] Kabul, 30 December, TASS--The new Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan continues the cause of the great April revolution and will develop it, said Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA]. He spoke on Kabul Radio and expounded the government program for domestic and foreign policy.

The April revolution, Babrak Karmal noted, was a strong blow at feudalism, local reaction and world imperialism. Very unfortunately, however, as a result of the mistakes and particularly as a result of the adventuristic and criminal antiparty, counterrevolutionary and antistate, as well as inhuman, course of Hafizollah Amin, the party and state embarked on a disastrous path of blindness, delusion and vacillation, since this is what reaction and imperialism wanted.

Babrak Karmal said that if at the present time truly revolutionary and patriotic forces, proceeding on the basis of the ideas of the April revolution, had not taken a creative revolutionary initiative into their hands, the national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of our glorious homeland of Afghanistan, and peace in the region, could possibly have been gravely threatened and Afghanistan would have been turned into a slaughterhouse for millions of people.

The new Revolutionary Council, Babrak Karmal stressed, considers its main duty to be to direct the liberating April revolution along the true path, to rectify harmful mistakes, to compensate for the damage inflicted and to overcome the crisis.

While our immediate task in the present conditions is not the introduction of socialism, the new democratic government considers its national historic mission to be a strengthening and development of the progressive social and political foundations of the DRA--that great gain of the April revolution--and bringing the anti-feudal national, democratic anti-imperialist and anti-compradore revolution to final victory, Babrak Karmal said.

The tasks of the DRA Government in the sphere of domestic policy, Babrak Karmal said, are directed toward eliminating poverty, disease, economic backwardness, illiteracy and ignorance, unemployment and inequality, national and social oppression in Afghanistan, toward creating an independent national economy and accelerating the rate of economic development on the basis of scientific plans of economic and social development, including the creation of a national independent economy [as received] and industrialization of the state, and also toward raising the standard of living of the masses of the people.

Expounding the foreign political course of the DRA Government, Babrak Karmal stressed that Afghanistan is following a course of a principled policy of peace, based upon the principles of positive and active neutrality, peaceful coexistence, a policy of peace and detente, support for the reduction of strategic nuclear armaments and universal disarmament, human rights and the national liberation movement of the oppressed people. Afghanistan is a loyal member of the United Nations and of the nonalined movement and respects and observes all treaties concluded between Afghanistan and the countries of the world.

The people and state of the DRA, Babrak Karmal announced, by adhering faithfully to the treaty of friendship, good neighborliness and cooperation with the USSR of 5 December 1978, which in essence is a document guaranteeing stable peace and security in that region, support and develop their inviolable, friendly and fraternal relations with the Soviet Union, a great, peace-loving power. These relations have been a manifestation of the free will and patriotism of the Afghan people over the past 60 years since the declaration of independence and today they have become our important national tradition which proceeds from the essence of the Afghan nation and its aspiration toward progress. These relations have been raised to a new level and are developing in all directions.

Babrak Karmal announced that Afghanistan welcomed the national, Islamic, anti-imperialist and anti-monarchical revolution in Iran and fraternally comes out for the elimination of all differences with the Pakistan leaders. He stressed that expansion and strengthening of relations between Afghanistan and India was one of the serious and important factors of peace and security in that area. The people of the DRA support the selfless friendship of the PRC.

The creation of a progressive society in Afghanistan is the final aim of the DRA Government, Babrak Karmal stressed in conclusion.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1750 GMT on 30 December adds that:

["Babrak Karmal, welcoming the national, Islamic, anti-imperialist, anti-monarchic revolution of the broad masses of the fraternal people of Iran, will display initiative in drawing together and consolidating friendship between the two friendly states, bound with historical ties. There are actually, no differences between our countries. The Afghan and Pakistani peoples have common unbreakable fraternal roots. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan honestly and fraternally advocates elimination of all differences and misunderstanding through negotiations with top leaders of Pakistan.

["Since the peaceful Afghan people turns down the policy of expansionism, war and interference into internal affairs, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan principledly advocates the right of the fraternal Pushtu and Baluchi peoples to express their free will, which should themselves take decisions on their future.

["Babrak Karmal emphasized that strong links and the common destiny, the friendly and fraternal relations between the people of Afghanistan and the peaceloving people of India are deep rooted in history. From this it follows that further expansion and consolidation of relations between Afghanistan and India is one of the serious and important factors of peace and security in the region. The people of Afghanistan advocates disinterested friendship with the People's Republic of China--the state which is also our neighbour. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, proceeding from the principles of friendship and peace with all countries of the world, extends a hand of friendship to the nonaligned countries and also the working people of those countries, develops with these countries its Moslem fraternal relations and resolutely supports the liberation struggle of the people of Palestine."]

Further on Karmal Statement

LD301608 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

[Excerpts] A TASS correspondent reports from Kabul: Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], has made an address on Kabul radio. He set out the political line of the state and government of the DRA.

Karmal stressed that the people of Afghanistan are entering a new stage of the national and democratic April revolution, when the dark times of Hafizollah Amin's rule have been brought to an end and when the national front, under the leadership of the PDPA, with the aid of the army, has taken power into its own hands in order to defend the cause of the April revolution. We are firmly convinced, he said, that our revolution will overcome the enormous difficulties of the moment. One of the most remarkable turning points in the history of our people is being carried out at this moment and it will be of enormous significance in the effort to insure the people's free and independent life.

Karmal announced that all Muslim compatriots who had fled abroad because of Amin's despotism and oppression were called upon to return to their independent and peace-loving homeland of Afghanistan, to lay down their arms, to halt fratricide and to promote the rebirth of calm and securityin the country.

Karmal went on to stress that Amin, an agent of the CIA and of U.S. imperialism, a traitor to the cause of the unity of the party, state and armed forces, had not spared the founder of the party and first general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the late Nur Mohammad Taraki.

Addressing Afghanistan's armed forces, Karmal appealed to them to defend the country's honor and dignity conscientiously, selflessly and in a disciplined manner. Karmal went on to set out the basic principles on which the creation of the united national front of the homeland is being carried out under the leadership of the PDPA, the party of the working class and all working people of Afghanistan: national sovereignty, national independence, territorial integrity, true democracy, the creation of a democratic state and administrative system, the strengthening of the foundations of revolutionary legality and democracy in the life of the society and state and the expansion and development of mass organizations.

In the field of foreign policy the DRA will pursue a principled policy of peace, based on the principles of positive and active neutrality, peaceful coexistence, a policy of peace and detente and support for the reduction of strategic nuclear arms and universal disarmament, human rights and the national liberation movement of opporessed peoples.

In conclusion, Karmal addressed the workers, peasants, soldiers, intelligentsia, representatives of the religious leadership and all working people of the country, and appealed for vigilance, defense of the revolution and of the homeland, and cohesion in the united popular front under the banner of peace and freedom, independence and neutrality, democracy and progress.

VARIATION ON REPORT 'USSR MEETS AFGHAN 'REQUEST' FOR AID'

Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1549 GMT on 28 December adds the following to the item entitled "USSR Meets Afghan 'Request' for Aid" published on page D3 of the 28 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT:

Second paragraph, last line in the TASS Russian version reads " . . . including military aid which the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan repeatedly requested from the Government of the Soviet Union."

TARAKI'S WIFE, OTHERS RELEASED FROM PRISON

LD291116 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kabul--It has been announced here that the new Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has released from prison many Afghan citizens, members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], military and civilian representatives, workers and peasants and religious and Muslim figures who were illegally arrested and convicted on Amin's orders.

The unjustly convicted people received with joy and emotion this just decision by the people's government.

Among those freed from prison were such prominent figures as Soltan Ali Keshtmand: Mohammad Rafi; Abdol Qader; (Asghar), the wife of N.M. Taraki, the former general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister; Soraya, an active figure in the women's movement; the wife of A. Sarwari and many members of the PDPA who played a prominent role in the April revolution and who were illegally persecuted by Amin.

INDIAN OFFICIAL: INDIA 'CLOSELY FOLLOWING' AFGHAN DEVELOPMENTS

LD291512 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

["Position of India"--TASS headline]

[Text] Delhi, December 29, TASS--An official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of India said at a press conference held here that the Government of India is closely following the developments in Afghanistan and is kept informed about them by its mission in Kabul.

The Government of the USSR, he said, informed the Government of India, that at the request of the Afghan leadership, the Soviet Union had given Afghanistan military assistance with a view to contributing to the organization of a rebuff to external aggression and interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. True to the principles of nonalignment, the Government of India supports the sovereign right of the people of Afghanistan to determine its destinies without any foreign interference.

Answering to questions by newsmen, the official spokesman of the Indian Foreign Ministry stressed that if the Soviet Union has taken some steps in keeping with the request of the Afghan leaders, this does not represent a violation of the principles of nonalignment. Any country has the right, in case of need, to appeal, for assistance, to any state, he noted, referring, among others, to Article 51 of the U.N. Charter.

LEBANESE PAPER DENOUNCES U.S. ATTEMPTS TO 'DESTABILIZE' AFGHANISTAN

LD291452 Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, December 29, TASS--The United States is actively supporting those who are fighting together with it against the national liberation movements in the world, who are opposed to the policy of international detente, writes Lebanese newspaper (AL-QA'IDAH). This is exemplified by the latest developments in Afghanistan where U.S. imperialism is striving to destabilise the situation by giving assistance to anti-popular forces opposed to the progressive course of development of the country. The facts show, the newspaper stresses, that in Afghanistan Americans were pursuing their subversive activity in close cooperation with China which supplies the bandit groups with weapons and prepares them for infiltration into Afghan territory.

The mendacious, hostile propaganda now let loose against Afghanistan is pursuing a clearly defined objective: to denigrate the assistance of the Soviet Union to the national liberation movements and progressive forces in the world and thus to disguise the insidious plans with regard to the developing peoples. Beijing leadership's allying with the aggressive actions of U.S. imperialism in Asia, (AL-QA'IDAH) points out, constitutes a serious threat to the progressive forces in the whole world, boding new conflicts in the Middle East.

L'HUMANITE CITED ON SOVIET ACTIONS IN AFGHANISTAN

LD300140 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1754 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

["Slanderers Rebuffed"--TASS headline]

[Text] Paris, 29 December, TASS--Commenting on the malicious propaganda campaign unleashed in the Western countries in connection with the events in Afghanistan, the paper L'HUMANITE writes: "This chorus is known to all. It can be heard each time any country gets rid of chaos and imperialism. In Washington we have Brown, the U.S. defense secretary, who is 'indignant' at the events in Afghanistan, appointing, at the same time, the head of the Marines [morskaya pekhota] to be the commander of the interference forces for the "establishment of order," which number some 100,000 men. In London we have Mrs Thatcher, in Bonn the FRG Government. In Paris Giscard's government declares its "great concern." As for television, radio and the press, it is literally as if they had slipped their leash. Imperialism is alarmed over Afghanistan in precisely the same way in which it was alarmed because of Iran, Kampuchea and Vietnam.

"However, calm was restored in Kabul yesterday following brief clashes which took place the day before and which put an end to Amin's regime. Babrak Karmal, the new president, reported the formation of the government in which representatives of various progressive forces are represented. The government appealed to the Soviet Union for aid on the basis of the friendship treaty signed between the two countries in December 1978 and received this aid. It stated that the elections would be held in the nearest future and that struggle with unemployment and backwardness constituted the most important task as did solidarity with all peoples who were imperialism's victims. "Indeed, all this cannot in any way satisfy Washington, London, Bonn or Paris."

Vienna, 29 December, TASS--Since last April Afghanistan has been exposed to military intervention, writes the paper VOLKSTIMME. This intervention does not come from the Soviet Union. It is being carried out by military bands of major landowners operating from abroad, the border being, in fact, open. They are paid in American dollars and armed with Chinese arms. They have bases and training camps in Pakistan. The Soviet military aid to Kabul has spoiled the plans of international reaction which wanted to put an end to the Afghan revolution.

PRAVDA COMMENTATOR DENIES USSR AIDED AFGHAN COUP

LD302020 Moscow TASS in English 2007 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 30, TASS--PRAVDA of December 31 carries Aleksey Petrov's article "On Events in Afghanistan." Follows the full text of the article:

"Important events took place in the life of the Afghan people in the recent days. In connection with imperialist interference in the internal affairs of Democratic Afghanistan that has assumed the scope and forms that jeopardized the very existence of the republic, the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan made a call to the country's population to take a resolute stand to protect the gains of the April revolution. They are rallying all the progressive national forces for the sake of consolidating new, free and independent Afghanistan.

The breaking down of the old and the creation of the advanced is always a difficult, complex process. This is ever more difficult, when added to the resistance put to the revolution by internal reaction, by the forces that are losing power and privileges, is interference of external reaction, when imperialism is trying to take advantage of the moment to widen the scope of its domination, to suppress and subjugate another people. This is completely and doubly true when applied to present-day Afghanistan.

Until recently, one of the most ancient countries of central Asia was among the most backward countries. It seemed life stands still on the medieval mark and the people is doomed to miserable existence. Feudals swayed the destinies and were victimizing people and in order to ensure that this remains so for ever, they were spreading obscurantism, were enmeshing the masses with shackling dependence, were suppressing any attempt to bring a spark of light into the dark of lawlessness and arbitrariness. The Afghan people said "no" to this rotten system in April, 1978. The working people of the country took their destiny into their own hands.

Life demanded profound transformations in urban and rural areas, the restructuring of class and tribal relations, of the very socio-economic base of Afghan society, the instilling and not merely formal proclamation of the principles of independence and sovereignty, of service to the national interests of Afghanistan. Without such transformations it would be impossible even to think of any true people's power, of prosperity of the people.

The April revolution was led and implemented by the advanced forces of the Afghan society united in the People's Democratic Party, the forces that were cruelly persecuted by the royal regime, that were subjected to reprisals during the rule of Daud Shah. The April revolution was made with the minimal losses. This fact shows not only that the previous regime was outdated but also the closeness of the programme advanced by the People's Democratic Party to the broad masses that supported the revolution as its own vital cause.

The foes of Democratic Afghanistan were aware that every step along the construction of new life, of the country's liberation from the meshes of oppression, is dashing their hopes for regaining the lost positions. The external imperialist forces formed a direct collusion with the internal counter-revolutionary forces. Both the external imperialist forces and the internal counter-revolutionary forces met the emergence of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with outright hostility and do not conceal their intention to do everything so as to push Afghanistan off the chosen road.

The forces of internal counter-revolution and foreign reaction were hoping that the April revolution will be unable to parry the blows that will be dealt on it. They came to believe this so much, that they were naming the days and months when they will make a triumphant entry into Kabul and at times even did not make a secret of the preparations of piratic raids on some or other district. But then the reactionaries were receiving actually unlimited backing from the imperialist circles of the USA, the Beijing leaders and governments of some other countries that were lavishly supplying the counter-revolutionary gangs with weapons, equipment and money.

Scores of centers, formally described as refugee camps, were set up in the territory of Pakistan. Undergoing training there are armed formations, which are sent into the territory of Afghanistan. It is in these camps that they set it out, or are being rallied after making raids on Afghan populated settlements, communications and other objects. Among instructors, setting up these formations, are members of American secret services, Chinese specialists in the so-called "guerrilla coperations" and even specialists in subversive operations from Egypt.

There is an obvious inter-connection between visits of American emissaries to Pakistan, their visits to some areas of Afghanistan itself, and actions of the rebel forces. It is not an accidental coincidence that the mutiny in Herat to which Afghan reaction, Washington and Beijing were attaching special significance, was raised immediately after one of the ring-leaders of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries was received at the U.S. Department of State. There is data on attempts of American representatives to get from the leadership of Pakistan consent to a still broader use of the Pakistani territory for sending armed formations into Afghanistan. From Pakistan it was demanded that it be involved still broader into aggressive actions against Afghanistan.

There is no need for special insight to be able to see through the motives of the United States' actions. There are figures in Washington who persistently look for replacements for the positions that were lost as a result of the fall of the shah's regime in Iran. Cracks appeared in the notorious "strategic arc" that Americans have been building for decades close to the southern borders of the Soviet Union, and in order to mend these cracks, it was sought to bring under the Afghan people and also peoples of other countries of the region.

The uncalled-for interference of imperialist forces in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, constant armed intrusions from the outside created a great danger for the country. In 1978-1979, the Afghan Government turned many times to the Soviet Union with the requests of support, specifically with requests of military aid in response to armed interference by imperialist forces.

The Soviet Union believed that imperialist forces, getting convinced of irreversibility of the changes that have taken place in Afghanistan, would not go beyond a certain limit, would show consideration for realities. At the same time, our country made no secret that it will not allow Afghanistan's being turned into a bridgehead for preparation of imperialist aggression against the Soviet Union.

But enemies of people's Afghanistan did not stop armed struggle against it. Imperialist interference started assuming forms and proportions, still broader and more dangerous for the Afghan people.

External imperialist reaction has been taking continuous efforts also for undermining the state power organs, for disorganizing the ranks of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

Reaction found a helper for implementation of its anti-popular designs among the very leadership of Democratic Afghanistan. H. Amin turned out to be that helper. By deception and intrigues he got hold of the main levers of management of the state and then overthrew the lawful president N. Taraki and killed him. By his criminal actions, gross violation of law and order, by cruelty and abuse of power, Amin was undermining the ideals of the April revolution. On his hands is the blood of many representatives of the industrious Afghan people, party leaders, honored military men, Moslem dignitaries, other honest citizens. Amin in actual fact teamed up with the enemies of the April revolution.

In conditions when interference from outside and terror unleashed by Amin within the country created a real threat to the democratic system, there were patriotic forces in Afghanistan which rose not only against foreign aggression but also against the usurper. Relying on the support of the people, they removed Amin. Revolutionary law and order was restored in the country. The People's Democratic Party and the state are directing their efforts to protect the gains of the April revolution, sovereignty, independence and nationa dignity of Afghanistan.

In the obtaining circumstances the Afghan Government has made again an insistent request that the Soviet Union should give immediate aid and support in the struggle against external aggression.

The Soviet Union decided to grant this request and to send to Afghanistan a limited Soviet military contingent that will be used exclusively for assistance in rebuffing the armed interference from the outside. The Soviet contingent will be completely pulled out of Afghanistan when the reason that necessitated such an action exists no longer.

Making this decision, the Soviet Union proceeded from the community of the interests of Afghanistan and our country in the questions of security recorded in the 1978 treaty of friendship, goodneighbourliness and cooperation, out of the interest of preserving peace in the region.

Article Four of the Soviet-Afghan treaty says:

"Acting in the spirit of the traditions of friendship and goodneighbourliness, as well as the United Nations Charter, the parties to the treaty will be consulting each other and with mutual consent will be taking appropriate measures to ensure security, independence and territorial integrity of both countries. In the interests of reinforcing defence potentials of the parties to the treaty, they will continue developing cooperation in the military sphere."

The request of the Afghan leadership and the positive response of the Soviet Union to this request also stem from the provisions of Article 51 of the United Nations Charter that envisages the inalienable right of states to collective and individual self-defence to rebuff an aggression and restore peace.

The allegations being spread these days by the means of imperialist propaganda about "Afghanistan's occupation by Soviet troops," about involvement of Soviet military personnel in internal affairs in that country, about "the USSR's interference into internal affairs constituting a threat to international peace" have nothing to do with reality. But these allegations expose the real intentions of certain circles, above all overseas circles, hostile to the cause of people's struggle for freedom and independence.

Soviet-Afghan relations have a lengthy history, and the peoples of our two neighbouring countries have all the grounds to treasure the friendship existing between them, to value their close relations based on mutual respect, equality and cooperation. The USSR gave and is giving to Afghanistan various economic, scientific and technical and other assistance. It helps solve complex problems facing by the people that embarked upon the construction of a new society. To deny Afghanistan the assistance which it has asked for now would mean to cross out the entire experience of our good and honest cooperation with that country, to leave Afghanistan alone to face the imperialist forces that are determined to deprive the Afghan people of the opportunity to enjoy their rights and freedom to the full extent.

Soviet assistance to and support of Afghanistan are not directed against any of its neighbour countries that are also our neighbours. The USSR is interested in maintaining normal friendly relations with them, the relations based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs.

The sooner an end is put to the intrigues of the forces that are orienting their policy, as before, at the continuation of strife and at provoking new conflicts, at setting peoples and states one against another, the sooner peace is restored in the entire region, the more the interests of these countries will gain.

BREZHNEV SENDS CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM TO KARMAL

LD311333 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text of greetings message from L. Brezhnev to Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan]

[Text] To Comrade Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

I heartily congratulate you, on being elected as general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and to the senior state positions of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

On behalf of the Soviet leadership and myself personally I wish you great successes in all your diverse activity for the good of the friendly Afghan people. I am sure that in the present conditions the Afghan people will succeed in defending the gains of the April revolution, the sovereignty, independence and national dignity of the new Afghanistan.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev

GROMYKO CONGRATULATES AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER DOST

LD291628 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

["Andrey Gromyko's Telegramme"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 29, TASS--The USSR Minister for Foreign Affairs Andrey Gromyko has sent a telegramme of congratulations to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Mohammed Dost on the occasion of his appointement to this post.

"I express firm confidence," the telegramme says, "that the friendly Soviet-Afghan relations will strengthen and develop for the good of the peoples of our countries, in the name of peace and security of the peoples of the Middle East and Asia as a whole."

CHARGES OF INTERFERENCE IN AFGHANISTAN DENIED

NC301755 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 22 Dec 79 NC

[Vera Lebedeva Answers Questions From Iranian Listeners]

[Text] Our dear listener Mostafa Qadami from [name indistinct] has asked us whether Western propaganda stating that Soviet troops have been moved onto Afghan soil is true.

Dear Mr Qadami, no, it is false. Western propaganda stating that Soviet armed forces have been stationed on Afghan soil is a complete lie that has been invented primarily to mislead public opinion, to slanderously accuse Soviet foreign policy and to harm the people of Afghanistan, who like the Iranian people, accomplished their revolution and overthrew the despotic monarchical regime. The entire world knows that Soviet policy is based on complete equality and on respect for other states' sovereignty, territorial integrity and noninterference in their internal affairs. This policy is steadfast and fully applies to Iran as well as Afghanistan.

Our esteemed listener Mrs Mariam Minachi from Tehran asks: Does the Soviet Union support the Afghan Government, which, according to Western propaganda, pays no attention to the problems of the Muslims?

It is not unlikely [as heard] that our country multilaterally supports Afghanistan; anything other than this is impossible. The Soviet Union supports all peoples engaged in anti-imperialist struggles for freedom. The changes that are taking place in Afghanistan are in total conformity with the interests and problems of the deprived workers.

Dear Mariam, judge fairly. Afghan villagers have gained free land taken from bloodthirsty landowners. (Land reform), which is in accordance with the teachings of Islam, is under way in this country. The Afghan Government also sympathizes with city workers by providing them with housing, schools and free hospitals. The claims that the Afghan Government is heedless of Muslims' interests are totally baseless. The government deeply respects the religion of Islam and the feelings of the faithful. The revolution provided Islam with true freedom. In addition, we must note that a few days ago the Kabul TIMES reported that the teaching and recitation of the Koran was compulsary in schools and that the clergy of the mosques who are willing to serve would be paid from the national treasury.

Progressive changes that accord with the interests of the people and of the most deprived are bound to receive the support of the Soviet people. Our country views the Afghan people's struggles against counterrevolutionaries and proimperialists with understanding and sympathy. These forces, particularly the imperialist forces, try with all their might to [words indistinct] the affairs of Afghanistan and to bring back the colonial order that existed during the rule of the Naderi dynasty.

Mohammad Safar, a student from Mashhad, asks us: We often hear that the Afghan insurgents are defenders of Islam. Is this true?

It must be pointed out that counterrevolutionaries in Afghanistan have nothing in common with true Islam. Islam exhorts the equality of Muslims and defends the rights of the deprived and oppressed. For this reason, the counterrevolutionaries' claim that they are defenders of Islam is a lie. It is impossible to talk about belief in Islam while acting against the interests of one's nation, and especially against the interests of the (deprived). In the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, former landowners, from whom vast lands have been taken, lead counterrevolutionary forces. It is not accidental that the U.S. imperialists, the other Western countries and the Chinese Maoists support these antipopular forces.

SOVIET-INDIAN TRADE PROTOCOL FOR 1980 SIGNED IN DELHI

LD291332 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] A Soviet-Indian protocol on trade for 1980 has been signed in Delhi. It envisages an increase in the volume of trade turnover of up to 19 billion rupees.

The Soviet Union will supply India with machine-building products, oil and oil products. Indian exports will include tea, coffee, products made from cotton, footwear, woolen and cotton knitwear and other goods.

PATOLICHEV MEETS WITH ROMANIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

ID282334 Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 28 Dec 79 ID

[Text] Soviet-Romanian trade talks have been held in Moscow at ministerial level. Nikolay Patolichev and Cornel Burtica discussed the state of bilateral trade and prospects for the future. This year the bulk of an increase in Soviet-Romanian trade has been due to machines and equipment.

ROMANIAN-SOVIET PROTOCOL ENVISAGES TRADE INCREASE IN 1980

ID292044 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1403 GMT 29 Dec 79 ID

[Text] Moscow, 29 December [TASS]--Aleksandr Stroganov, TASS economic observer, writes:

Further increasing trade between the USSR and Romania is envisaged by a protocol on trade turnover for 1980 signed here on Friday. Taking into account the volume mapped out by it, one may say that in the current 5-year plan period (1976-1980) trade between the two countries will grow by 70 percent in comparison with the preceding 5-year plan period and will amount to R9 billion.

The USSR now holds first place in Romania's foreign trade turnover. Soviet exports to this country in 1980 are represented by mining equipment, road-building equipment, motor vehicles, agricultural machinery, equipment for the chemical industry, ships, and also basic types of raw materials and materials necessary for the development of Romanian industry. Romania also supplies varied equipment to the USSR.

In the following 3-year plan period basic attention will be devoted to the development of production and scientific-technical cooperation. The importance of such work has been noted more than once in the meetings between Comrades Leonid Brezhnev and Nicolae Ceausescu, including the latest meeting in the Crimea in August.

There are now about 30 agreements on specialization and production cooperation in operation between the two countries. They cover production of ships and railway cars, agricultural machinery and the chemical industry.

Ships being built for the USSR in Romanian yards, for example, are fitted with Soviet navigational and radio equipment. Specialization and cooperation between the two countries have spread to such an important field as the production of equipment for atomic power stations.

In the postwar years over 100 industrial enterprises and other projects have been built in Romania with Soviet economic and technical assistance. In the current 5-year plan period about 50 projects, most of all in the field of power engineering, ferrous metallurgy and the oil-refining and chemical industries, are being built in cooperation with the USSR.

This year has been marked by the further development of cooperation in this direction. A house-building combine with a productivity of 70-80,000 square meters of living space per year has been brought into operation in Romania. A major production line at an aluminum works has been commissioned. Power sets have been supplied for power stations being built in Romania. This cooperation will be continued in 1980.

POLAND GIVES AWARD TO FRUNZE ACADEMY; PAVLOVSKY CONGRATULATIONS

ID241631 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Dec 79 p 3 ID

[Correspondent Report: "Award Presented"]

[Text] By decree of the Polish State Council the M.V. Frunze Military Academy has been awarded the Commander's Cross with the star of the Order of Merit of the Polish People's Republic for a special contribution over many years to the cause of training and improving command staff cadres for the Polish Army.

At a ceremony held here Divisional General T. Hupalowski, first deputy chief of staff of the Polish Army, read out the Polish State Council decree and attached the order to the academy's combat banner.

The academy collective was congratulated on the high award by Army General I. Pavlovskiy, commander in chief of Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, and V. Protopopov, first secretary of Moscow's Leninskiy CPSU Raykom.

Col Gen P. Melnikov, chief of the academy, expressed sincere thanks for the high award and gave an assurance that the academy collective will continue to devote all its efforts and knowledge to the cause of further strengthening the socialist countries' fraternal cooperation and their armies' combat collaboration.

The ceremony to present the order was attended by Divisional General J. Szczensnowicz, Army, Air Force and Navy attache to the Polish Embassy in the USSR.

BULGARIAN, SOVIET DEPUTY PREMIERS DISCUSS TRADE IN SOFIA

ID281621 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 79 p 4 ID

[TASS report: "Work Procedure Determined"]

[Text] Sofia, 22 December--A meeting took place in Sofia 19-21 December between the chairmen of the Soviet and Bulgarian sides of the Soviet-Bulgarian intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

It determined a schedule of work on the practical realization of the general scheme of specialization and cooperation in the sphere of material production between the USSR and Bulgaria through 1990. Agreement was reached on the principal provisions of the main directions of production, scientific and technical cooperation, including chemical machine building, the automotive industry, construction and road machine building, agricultural industry, machine building for the light and food industries and other sectors of material production.

The Soviet delegation was headed by K.F. Katushev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the Bulgarian delegation by K. Zarev, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers.

T. Zhivkov, first secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, received K.F. Katushev. Questions connected with the further broadening and deepening of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria were discussed during talks held in a cordial, friendly atmosphere.

He was also received by S. Todorov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers.

CPSU, SPANISH CP DELEGATIONS HOLD DISCUSSIONS IN MADRID

LD281619 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "On the CPSU Delegation's Visit"]

[Text] Madrid, December 22--A CPSU delegation, consisting of Ye. M. Tyazhelnikov (the leader of the delegation), member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department; V. I. Brovikov, second secretary of the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee; V. G. Gusev, first secretary of the Saratov CPSU Obkom; M. F. Menashev, editor in chief of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA; Yu. I. Zuyev, head of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; V. V. Pertsov, senior official of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; visited Spain from 14 to 22 December at the invitation of the Spanish Communist Party [PCE] Central Committee.

A conversation between the CPSU delegation and the PCE delegation headed by Ignacio Gallego, member of the Executive Committee of the PCE, took place at the PCE Central Committee.

The CPSU delegation was received by Dolores Ibarruri, chairman of the Spanish Communist Party. The delegation visited the Madrid Provincial Committee of the PCE, went to a number of Spanish cities, and made a tour of the Valencia region where they familiarized themselves with some aspects of the party organization's activities.

The CPSU delegation met with S. Carrillo, PCE secretary general, as well as with members of the PCE Executive Committee.

During the conversations the delegations informed each other of the activities of their parties and exchanged opinionson topical problems of the international situation. They declared that it is necessary to continue actions in defense of peace, detente and disarmament.

[Moscow TASS in English at 2048 GMT on 22 December 1979 at this point adds the following paragraph: "The CPSU delegation spoke of the Soviet Union's foreign policy steps aimed at supporting detente and achieving disarmament. The delegation emphasized the dangerous-to-peace character of the recently adopted decisions of NATO, and stated the USSR's intention to resolutely struggle against those plans, for peace in Europe and throughout the world. The declaration of the CPS [PCE] reaffirmed its stand, denouncing the NATO decisions on deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons in a number of West European countries, and emphasized that any decisions aimed at maintaining the military balance in Europe should be taken on the basis of reduction, not a build-up, of nuclear weapons between the two military-political alignments."]

The delegations hold that in today's situation the Madrid meeting in 1980 will be called upon to play an important role in the cause of disarmament, security and European cooperation.

The conversations passed in a well-wishing and frank atmosphere, reaffirming the CPSU's and the PCE's striving to develop and strengthen friendship and cooperation on the basis of the principles of internationalist solidarity, full equality, mutual respect and independence.

The CPSU delegation returned to Moscow on 22 December.

TURKISH SENATE COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE ACTIVITIES OF U.S. BASES

LD280913 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 79 p 5 LD

[A. Filippov dispatch: "Are Bases Needed?"]

[Text] Ankara--By decision of the Senate--the upper house of the Turkish Grand National Assembly--a commission has been set up to conduct a careful and comprehensive investigation into the activities of the numerous American and NATO military bases located on the country's territory. The commission is to establish whether there are legitimate grounds for the bases' continued existence.

This parliamentary commission, the press points out, has been set up in connection with a request from Senator S. Gursoytrak. We have at our disposal, the request states, a secret document implying that the United States has the right to use these bases to interfere in Turkey's internal affairs if "riots or disturbances arise" in the country. It follows from this that the granting of land for these bases and the presence there of American troops and combat hardware contradict Turkey's national interests. The placing of American military personnel at Incirlik base on combat alert in connection with the events in Iran, and the U.S. plan to use the country's airspace have placed Turkey willy-nilly in a position of apparently supporting American plans for an armed invasion of Iran. We do not believe, the senator declared, that the Turkish public and parliament are sufficiently informed about the activities of the U.S. military bases on Turkish territory or their administration.

BRITISH-SOVIET ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION HELD IN LONDON

LD280957 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Dec 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS correspondent report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] London--The fifth routine roundtable meeting, which took place in conformity with the accord reached during the Soviet-British summit meeting in Moscow in February 1975, has finished its work in London. Academician N.N. Inozemtsev, director of the Institute of World Economics and International Relations headed the Soviet delegation. D. Watt, director of the Royal Institute of International Relations headed the British delegation. Taking part in the conference were representatives of scientific, political and business circles.

During the meeting topical problems of the present international situation, including problems of European security and military detente and the situation in the Near East, in Southeast Asia and in Africa were discussed. Great attention was devoted to problems of the international economic situation including energy problems, and also to the prospects for developing East-West relations. The state of, and prospects for the development of Soviet-British relations were earnestly analyzed at the meeting. The work of the conference was characterized by a constructive and businesslike approach.

USTINOV SEES OFF DEPARTING AUSTRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER

LD211630 Moscow TASS in English 1551 GMT 21 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 21, TASS--Otto Roesch, defence minister of the Austrian Republic, left Moscow for Vienna today after staying in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of USSR Defense Minister Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov. At the airport the guest was seen off by Dmitriy Ustinov and other officials.

BELGRADE RADIO REPORTS KHOMEYNI'S MEETING WITH USSR AMBASSADOR

AU281605 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 28 Dec 79 AU

[Text] In Qom, Ayatollah Khomeyni has received Vinogradov, Soviet ambassador to Iran. Observers believe that the coup d'etat, which was carried out in Afghanistan yesterday, and its implications for Iran were discussed during the talks.

REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEMBER BEHESHTI ON RELEASE OF HOSTAGES

LD281536 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Ayatollah Beheshti, secretary of the Islamic Revolutionary Council of Iran, has stated that the American hostages will be freed once an international tribunal has reviewed the question of U.S. interference in Iran's internal affairs over the past 30 years.

QOTBZADEH ALLEGES NO FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO GOODWILL GESTURE

BK290206 Moscow in Bengali to India 1100 GMT 28 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh has alleged that the United States has not responded favorably to his country's goodwill gesture. He said that an economic blockade of Iran would affect the destiny of the American hostages. Qotbzadeh was talking to newsmen yesterday following a meeting of the Islamic Revolutionary Council.

Meanwhile, the United States is trying to internationalize the U.S.-Iranian crisis. With this goal in mind, Washington has requested a meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the question of economic sanctions against Iran.

[The above item was also carried by Moscow in Bengali at 1300 GMT on 28 December and Moscow in Urdu at 1500 and 1300 GMT on 28 December.]

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 30 December reports: "Qotbzadeh, the Iranian minister of foreign affairs, has declared that the fate of the American hostages depends on the decisions the Security Council takes. At a press conference in Tehran, the minister said that the United States has not reacted at all to Iran's goodwill gestures in permitting the detained Americans to receive visits, letters and Christmas presents. Instead of responding, the U.S. Government is intensifying pressure on other countries to force them to vote for anti-Iranian sanctions, Qotbzadeh stated."]

ECONOMIC SANCTIONS WILL 'ADVERSELY AFFECT HOSTAGES'

BK291521 Moscow in Bengali to Bangladesh 1300 GMT 29 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh warned that the imposition of economic sanctions against his country will adversely affect the fate of the American hostages. PARS NEWS AGENCY said that during a meeting with the ambassadors of a number of Western countries in Tehran yesterday Qotbzadeh regretted that the United States and some other Western countries are creating obstacles to finding a solution to the U.S.-Iranian crisis.

However, the minister emphatically said that Iran will continue to seek a fair solution to this issue.

Reports from New York have said that consultations have begun among the members of the UN Security Council, convened under U.S. pressure, to consider the question of imposing economic sanctions against Iran. UPI said that the Security Council will meet today. Observers believe that due to U.S. demands at the UN Security Council, the conflict might intensify and more nations will become involved in it.

NAVY COMMANDER MADANI ON DANGER OF U.S. INTERVENTION

LD291632 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 29 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, December 29, TASS--Vice Admiral A. Madani, commander of the Iranian Navy, in an interview with journalists, drew attention to the increasing activity of U.S. naval task forces in the Indian Ocean, and warned that in the event of violation of Iranian territorial waters by U.S. ships, the Navy of Iran will immediately repulse them. A U.S. military intervention against Iran is fraught with outbreak of a large-scale armed conflict, A. Madani said.

SUMMARY OF COMMENT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN U.S.-IRANIAN CRISIS

LD300840 [Editorial Report LD] The following summarizes available Soviet media treatment of U.S.-Iranian developments in the past 24 hours: TASS, in an unattributed commentary, accuses President Carter of using the Iranian crisis to strengthen his position for the forthcoming elections by distracting the public from the economic problems facing the nation. TASS notes Carter's statement that the U.S. reserves the right to take any action it deems necessary and accuses the U.S. of seeking to internationalize its "crude pressure" on Iran by seeking economic sanctions through the Security Council. TASS notes continued U.S. naval activity in the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean, and links Weizman's visit to the U.S. to "tactical coordination" in the event of an attack on Iran. Moscow also cites Iranian Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh's statement that sanctions will "adversely affect" the fate of the hostages and notes that economic sanctions will "complicate" the conflict. Moscow also cites Admiral Madani on the Iran Navy's readiness to "repulse" any U.S. violation of Iranian territorial waters. Soviet media have not been heard to report on the Iranian Foreign Ministry's condemnation of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. The Moscow Domestic Service roundtable discussion on 30 December does not mention the U.S.-Iran crisis.

U.S. USING IRAN CRISIS TO CREATE MIDEAST AXIS

LD302128 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Our correspondent Leonid Rassadin reports from Beirut:

The build-up of the American military potential in the area of the Near and Middle East which is continuing on the eve of the new year is giving rise to concern and worry in the Arab world. It is, first and foremost, a matter of the concentration of powerful U.S. Navy units, including aircraft carriers, close to Iranian shores. In addition it has become known that the visit to the Mediterranean port of Marseilles of the aircraft carrier Forrestal with 4,600 troops on board has been curtailed.

In the opinion of Arab observers, the Pentagon, knocking together the notorious 100,000-strong quick reaction corps, is obviously preparing the ground for a possible military intervention in certain oil-rich states of the Persian Gulf. It is not by chance that Egyptian President as-Sadat, in an interview with the Cairo weekly OCTOBER, openly spoke of the necessity of an American presence in this area. He also stressed his readiness to offer to the U.S. Armed Forces the relevant servicing facilities on Egyptian territory. (?The press) is calling attention to the fact that this statement by As-Sadat, as well as the military preparations by the Pentagon and the increasing American threats against sovereign Iran, have coincided with the visit to the United States by Weizman, the Israeli defense minister. He had a series of talks there (?aimed at) obtaining new economic and military help for Israel. And now American arms are being used by Israeli extremists to implement their aggressive plots against the Arab countries.

In the opinion of local observers, the United States is aspiring, under the pretext of the American-Iranian crisis, to (?forge ahead) with the creation of a Tel Aviv-Cairo military axis under its aegis, so as to (?try) to impose by force on the Arab peoples the capitulationary conditions of the settlement in the Near East.

ISRAELI ORGAN ENGAGES IN SUBVERSION, SABOTAGE IN IRAN

ID301800 Moscow TASS in English 1626 GMT 30 Dec 79 ID

[Text] Tehran, December 30, TASS--Mass demonstrations of workers, peasants, representatives of all strata of Iranian society are held every day outside the building of the American Embassy in Tehran. The demonstrators demand extradition to the Iranian people of the criminal-shah and the incalculable wealth he plundered. The demonstrators chant slogans: "Iran Shall Not Be Intimidated, It Shall Not Be Broken; We Are Ready For Any Difficulties and Self-Sacrifices."

A correspondent of the BAMDAD newspaper has sent a dispatch from Beirut, saying that one of the high-placed leaders of the Palestinian resistance movement disclosed to him Israel's secret plan towards Iran. In accordance with this plan, the elaboration of which by the department of the counter-intelligence service of the Israeli General Staff jointly with American advisers began five months ago, a special organ of "Iranian affairs" has been formed in Israel. It is engaged in subversive activities against the republican system in Iran.

This organ is something like the operational headquarters, involving former high-ranking officers of the shah army and SAVAK men, among them former Deputy Head of SAVAK Parviz Sabeti, former General Palizban and other butchers of the Iranian people.

The organ prepares groups of specialists in sabotage and subversion and also hired assassins to be sent to Iran with a view to exterminate prominent leaders of the republic, to infiltrate provocateurs into the ranks of different demonstrations to use of disquieting situation in a number of provinces to fan up religious and national strife. The Central Intelligence Agency, according to the Palestinian leader, supplies the organ with fugitive monarchists, who entrenched themselves under the Zionist wing, and also with consultations and necessary information.

BAHRAIN BANS U.S. NAVAL SHIPS FROM DOCKING

LD281542 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 28 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Bahrain has informed the United States of its decision to ban U.S. naval vessels in the Persian Gulf from calling at Bahraini ports. The Bahraini Government explained it decision by its striving to prevent an international conflict in connection with the exacerbation of U.S.-Iranian relations.

BREZHNEV EXCHANGES MESSAGES WITH AMIR OF BAHRAIN

LD281017 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 79 p 2 LD

[TASS report: "Telegrams Exchanged"]

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent the amir of the State of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, a telegram conveying to him and to the friendly Bahraini people congratulations and wishes for success and prosperity on the state of Bahrain's National Day.

In a reply telegram the amir of the State of Bahrain expressed gratitude for the congratulations and in turn conveyed best wishes to L.I. Brezhnev personally and wished the Soviet people further prosperity.

VARIATION TO ITEM ON USSR-PDRY TREATY RATIFICATION

The following variation to the item entitled "Supreme Soviet Presidium Urges Ratification of USSR-PDRY Treaty" published in the 14 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT page H 5 was taken from Moscow PRAVDA Russian 15 December page 2:

PRAVDA replaces entire passage from paragraph two, line two ...Then a debate was held--- through end of item.... Supreme Soviet to ratify it... with the following:

The treaty on friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen, he said, is an important political document which marks the start of a new stage in the development of our relations with this young state of the Arabian Peninsula. It is designed to serve the interests of the peaceful creative labor of the Soviet and South Yemen peoples and is a good basis for joint actions by our countries for the benefit of peace and security and fruitful cooperation among states.

The treaty particularly emphasizes that the USSR and Democratic Yemen are seeking to establish lasting and just peace in the Near East and will promote by every means the attainment, for this purpose, of an all-embracing cardinal settlement in this region. This accords with the Soviet Union's principled line aimed at liquidating the dangerous seat of tension in the Near East.

The conclusion of the treaty between the USSR and Democratic Yemen, V.F. Maltsev stressed, was one more step in implementing the program proclaimed by the 25th CPSU Congress of further struggle for peace and international cooperation and for the people's freedom and independence. The treaty fully accords with the provisions of the USSR Constitution.

A debate ensued.

LAPIN PRAISES SOVIET-PDRY RELATIONS, RECENT TREATY RATIFICATION

LD302026 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

[Valentin Lapin commentary]

[Text] The Presidium of the Soviet parliament has ratified the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. The treaty was signed on 25 October, 1979, during the visit to Moscow of the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il. Here's what a Radio Moscow commentator, Valentin Lapin, writes.

The treaty marks a new important stage in the development of friendly Soviet-South Yemeni relations. Like with the other Arab countries, the Soviet Union builds those relations on the basis of equality, mutual respect and noninterference in the affairs of each other, and those principles are laid down in the treaty. It also has international significance as a factor of peace and relaxation of tension in the Middle East. It says that the two sides will do their utmost to help attain a comprehensive Middle East settlement and to spread relaxation to all parts of the globe.

The Soviet Union, in line with its principled stand on the Middle East problem, gives support to the Arab people fighting to eliminate the consequences of Israel's aggression and against the attempts of the United States to impose separate deals on them and eventually its dictate. That is why it's not to the liking of the imperialists and their agents that friendship between the Soviet Union and the Arab people is growing stronger. That's the reason for vicious attacks and slander of every concrete expression of Soviet-Arab cooperation, including the treaty between the Soviet Union and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Those who would like to dictate their will to the Arabs and continue to appropriate their national wealth are trying to picture the treaty as a document allegedly infringing on the independence of Democratic Yemen. It has even asserted that the treaty allegedly carries a threat to the neighbors of Democratic Yemen. All this is absurd. When helping the people fighting for their freedom and independence, the Soviet Union seeks no advantages for itself, no concessions, no political domination and no military bases.

There are Soviet specialists in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. They are helping to develop agriculture, fishing and the national industry, but there haven't been and are no Soviet military bases in Democratic Yemen. As for the United States, it has concentrated its warships and aircraft carriers in the Arabian Sea near the shores of Southern Yemen and the Persian Gulf countries. Besides, a military and diplomatic mission from Washington has just toured a number of countries in the Middle East and East Africa, to try and pave the way for setting up a network of naval and air bases in the area. What for? To surround the Arab world and establish its own practices there.

That is where the danger comes from. It's for those operations that the 100,000-strong American quick response corps is being prepared. The example of the Near and Middle East shows who is the enemy of the national independence of the people, who is seeking their national wealth. The Arab people are struggling hard against the attempts to interfere in their affairs and in that struggle their natural ally is the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community. Soviet relations with the Arab countries are based on the mutual desire for peace and equitable cooperation and that desire is also expressed in the treaty between the Soviet Union and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL VIEWS CONTEMPORARY SIGNIFICANCE OF LENINISM

ID311007 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 79 p 1 ID

[Editorial: "Revolutionary Banner of the Epoch"]

[Text] The patriotic movement for greeting in a fitting manner the 110th anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birth, started by leading production workers of Moscow and Leningrad, is developing on an ever wider scale in the country. A titan of scientific thought and a true people's leader, an ardent revolutionary and creator of the Communist Party and of the world's first socialist state, he lives on in our hearts. He is always with us, in our thoughts, in struggle and in work.

The CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 110th Anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin's Birth" was published yesterday. Communists and all Soviet people see this document as yet further convincing evidence of the CPSU's unshakable loyalty to the ideas and behests of their great teacher. The resolution shows once more the gigantic rate at which Lenin's cause is growing and broadening, and how his ambitious schemes are being embodied in reality.

For over six decades now the Soviet people, guided by Lenin's party, have been marching in the vanguard of social progress. In their every achievement they reveal ever more fully the historic meaning and effectiveness of Leninism and strengthen its influence. Life itself and the very profound transformations which have radically changed the complexion of the modern world have become today the proof of the correctness and strength of Ilich's brilliant thoughts.

Every person who burns with a desire to struggle for the worker's cause, for the happiness of the working people, in order--in Lenin's words--to "implement mankind's best ideals" cannot fail to turn to Lenin, seek access to his life-giving word and the inexhaustible treasurehouse of Leninism. As a loyal and staunch follower of Marx and Engles, Lenin creatively developed their teaching. He enriched with fundamentally important tenets all the components of Marxism and opened a new stage in its development. Marxism does not, and cannot, exist without the new aspects introduced into it by Lenin. Leninism is the Marxism of the contemporary epoch.

Having absorbed the greatest achievements of the human genius and expressing profoundly and precisely the interests of the working class and of all working people and the requirements of social progress, Leninism has become the most progressive and influential ideology. For millions and millions of people in the world it is a symbol of the world's social renewal. It is the integral and constantly developing teaching of the international working class which makes it possible to formulate the correct answers to the most urgent and vital questions of today.

Unswervingly following Marx's call not only to explain the world but also to change it, at a turning point in history Lenin found the basic link which determined the course of all the subsequent events of the 20th century. This link was a proletarian party of a new kind, to whose creation and tempering Lenin devoted his whole life. This was an epoch-making feat. Lenin's party is the living embodiment of the indissoluble unity of scientific theory and revolutionary practice, the inspirer and leader of socialist revolution and of the building of a new society.

The worldwide-historic result of its efforts and of the Soviet people's dogged struggle is the developed socialist society in which the creative forces of the new system and its genuinely humane nature are being increasingly fully revealed.

Our country's scaling, at the present stage, of greater heights of social progress--the heights of mature socialism--can be rightly called a triumph for the CPSU's creative activity or Ilich's dream come true.

One of the greatest victories of Leninism and irrefutable evidence of its universal significance and internationalist character is the building of socialism in other countries. Lenin's banner today flutters over a number of countries in Europe, Asia and Latin America. The might of the world socialist community, united on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, is growing. The international communist movement has been transformed into the most influential political force of the present day. The fighters for national liberation have gained outstanding victories.

All these processes are unimaginable outside the most immediate influence of Lenin's ideas. Leninism also finds in them both remarkable confirmations of its correctness and also an inexhaustible source for further development. Profoundly analyzing the phenomena of social life, the CPSU and the fraternal parties constantly add to the treasurehouse of the great teaching. The decisions of the 23d, 24th and 24th CPSU congresses, its program documents and the works of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and other party leaders are an outstanding contribution to revolutionary theory.

Loyalty to the ideals of Leninism also determines the CPSU's and the Soviet state's entire international activity. The USSR together with other socialist countries and all progressive forces of the world wages a dogged and difficult struggle for the deepening of the relaxation of tension, the consolidation of peace and security of peoples, and an end to the arms race and disarmament. The peace program put forward by the CPSU was an expression of the hopes and aspirations of all honest people of the world.

The main source of our victories is the unity of the party and the people. Lenin taught us that only "he who believes in the people and plunges into the spring of living popular creativity" will be victorious. The CPSU reverently observes this behest. The CPSU has won the boundless trust of the broad masses. "Always and everywhere, at times of grave ordeals of life and fierce battles and also at times of joyous victories and sad failures, our people have remained loyal to Lenin's banner, loyal to their party and to the cause of revolution," --these words of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev graphically reflect the essence of the mutual relations between the party and the people their indissoluble unity and the cohesion of Soviet people around Lenin's party.

Today, as the country approaches Lenin's jubilee and the 26th CPSU Congress, the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and the people's intelligentsia, educated by the party in the spirit of communist morality, are devoting all their effort, knowledge and energy to the struggle for the successful implementation of the 10th 5-Year Plan targets and the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum decisions. Through their selfless labor they are raising Lenin's revolutionary banner still higher. Under this great banner our beloved socialist homeland is confidently moving forward along Lenin's course, the course of communism.

Long live Leninism, the banner of revolutionary struggle, communist creation and peace!

TASS RIDICULES HULLABALOO IN WEST OVER SOVIET FILM DIRECTOR

LD282341 Moscow TASS in English 2042 GMT 28 Dec 79 LD

["On the Question of Talents and Admirers"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 29, TASS--TASS commentator Vyacheslav Andreyev writes:

Lately those circles in the West, which are fond of teaching others how to live and what one should consider good and what bad, found in the USSR yet another "malcontent" and stormily show concern for him. "The Russian Fellini encountered restrictions in his creative activity" is approximately the vein in which commented some French newspapers is the fact that former film Director Sergey Paradzhanov, upon having served the imprisonment term under a court sentence, has not yet taken up socially useful work. And Paradzhanov himself when meeting foreigners, does not mind posing as a certain "ideological martyr."

As for the merits of Paradzhanov's creative activity in the past, the theme is open to debate. When art provides food for argument and thought, this alone is already indicative of the outstanding character of phenomenon and of marked individuality of an artist. The shimmer of Paradzhanov's glory was darkened by circumstances which one would not like even to mention, particularly on the pages of the press. He was convicted in 1974 not for his creative activity and not for his views, but under Article 122, Part 1, and Article 211 of the criminal code of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, which envisage imprisonment for sodomy and for distribution of pornographic articles. By those doings he placed himself outside society and consequently outside art.

In various states laws have different attitude to such deviations from norms but nowhere on the whole such inclinations are encouraged. If the criminal case of Polanski originated in the West, and Paradzhanov's case in this country, these are phenomena of the same order, belonging to the field of criminalistics and possible psychopathology, and by no means to aesthetics or politics.

Paradzhanov was punished and served his punishment. Our laws are humane and do not close the ways to the future for anyone. Of course, the peculiarities of Paradzhanov's personality do not make it easier for him to return to his former profession, the more so as it presupposes contacts with people. But all now depends on himself, on his ability to find strength in himself to serve people. The hullabaloo, raised around Paradzhanov's name in the West for the purposes which have nothing in common with the interests of art, does not of course facilitate him the choice of this way.

RUSAKOV AWARDED HERO OF SOCIALIST LABOR, ORDERS ON 70th BIRTHDAY

LD302232 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 30 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 30, TASS--The title of Hero of Socialist Labour has been conferred upon secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Rusakov. An Order of Lenin and a Gold "Hammer and Sickle" Order are to be presented to him.

This title was awarded to Konstantin Rusakov for his great services to the Communist Party and the Soviet state and on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

RSFSR RESOLUTIONS ON GOVERNMENT, OTHER APPOINTMENTS

LD281011 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 December 1979 publishes on page 3 the apparent texts of three RSFSR Supreme Soviet resolutions dated 12 December as follows:

Ratifying RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees appointing Gleb Grigoryevich Baytsur as RSFSR minister of communications, releasing Grigoriy Nikolayevich Marakov from his duties as RSFSR minister of construction materials industry, and appointing Sergey Fedorivich Voyenushkin RSFSR minister of construction materials industry; "releasing Comrade Lidiya Ivanova Anisimova from her duties as member of the RSFSR Supreme Court in connection with her retirement," and "electing Comrades Petr Petrovich Paskin and Gennadiy Pavlovich Rasskazov members of the RSFSR Supreme Court"; and on "making Comrade Ivan Semenovich Smirnov, RSFSR Council of Ministers administrator of affairs, a member of the RSFSR Government."

KUNAYEV REPORT AT KAZAKH CP PLENUM, RESHUFFLES REPORTED

AU121625 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1512 GMT 12 Dec 79 AU

["Communique on the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Plenum" held 12 December]

[Text] The 12th ordinary plenum of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee was held on 12 December 1979. The plenum listened to and discussed a report delivered by Comrade Kunayev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, on the tasks of the republic's party organization to implement the decisions of the November 1979 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the theses and conclusions set forth in Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech.

The following comrades took part in the discussion on the report: Protozanov, Vostochno-Kazakhstanskiy Obkom first secretary; Borodin, Kustanayskiy Obkom first secretary; Ashimbayev, Mangushlaskiy Obkom first secretary; Losev, Dzhezkazganskiy Obkom first secretary; Bekturganov, Dzhambulskiy Obkom first secretary; (Korzhun), director general of the Ekibastuz coal mining production association; Askarov, Chimkentskiy Obkom first secretary; Demidenko, Severo-Kazakhstanskiy Obkom first secretary; Mukashev, Kazakh trade unions council chairman; (Dorokhov), Alma-Atinskiy Oblispolkom chairman; Buranbayev, chief of the Alma-Ata railroad; Ivanov, Kazakh minister of trade; Seitov, Kazakh prosecutor; and Ibragimov, Kazakh minister of the light industry.

The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee plenum, in the decision adopted, fully and entirely endorsed the decisions of the November 1979 CPSU Central Committee plenum, the theses and conclusions set forth in Comrade Brezhnev's speech delivered at the plenum, and adopted them for guidance and steady implementation.

The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee plenum for the most part approved the draft 1980 state plan for the economic and social development of the Kazakh SSR and the draft budget of the republic for 1980.

The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee plenum examined organizational issues. The plenum relieved Comrade Korkin of the duties of Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee second secretary and Bureau member in connection with his transfer to another job. The plenum elected Comrade Miroshkin Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee second secretary, having relieved him of his duties as Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee secretary. The plenum elected Comrade Nazarbayev Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee secretary and Bureau member. The plenum relieved Comrade Abdukarimov of his duties as Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau member. With this the 12th Plenum of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee ended its proceedings.

Imashev Presidium Chairman

AU141842 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 14 Dec 79 AU

["Communique on the Kazakh Supreme Soviet Session" held 14 December]

[Text] The 11th Session of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet of the 9th Convocation continued its proceedings in Alma-Ata on 14 December. The deputies and guests warmly welcomed Comrade Kunayev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee first secretary; Comrades Aukhadiyev, Ashimov, Grebenyuk, Imashev, Klimov, Miroshkin, Nazarbayev and Trofimov, Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau members; Comrades Mukkashev and Shevchenko, Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau candidate members. Seats in the boxes were taken by Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium and Government members. Deputy Imashev, Kazakh Supreme Soviet chairman, opened the session.

The discussion continued on the reports on the state plan for the economic and social development of the Kazakh SSR for 1960 and the progress made in fulfilling the state plan for the development of the economic and social development of the Kazakh SSR for 1979, on the Kazakh SSR state budget for 1980 and the implementation of the Kazakh SSR state budget for 1978. Deputy Kozybayev, Aktyubinskiy Oblispolkom, chairman spoke in the debate.

The Supreme Soviet unanimously passed the law on the state plan for the economic and social development of the Kazakh SSR for 1980 and a decision of the progress made in the implementation of the state plan for the economic and social development of the Kazakh SSR for 1979. The Supreme Soviet then endorsed the Kazakh SSR state budget for 1980, taking into account the coreports by the plan and budget and other permanent commissions. A decision was adopted approving the report on the implementation of the Kazakh SSR state budget for 1978.

A report on the draft bill of the Kazakh SSR on the Kazakh Council of Ministers was delivered by Deputy Ashimov, Kazakh Council of Ministers chairman. A coreport on the draft bill of the Kazakh SSR on the Kazakh Council of Ministers was delivered by Deputy Dosmagambetov, chairman of the Legislative Proposals Commission of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet. Deputy Taskinbayev, Guryevskiy Oblispolkom chairman, and Deputy (Bazgay), Otyabrskiy Raykom first secretary in Turgayskaya Oblast, participated in the discussion on the report.

The Supreme Soviet passed the law of the Kazakh SSR on the Kazakh Council of Ministers and a decision on the procedure for implementing the law of the Kazakh SSR on the Kazakh Council of Ministers.

A report on the draft bills of the Kazakh SSR on amending and supplementing the laws of the Kazakh SSR on rayon, city, city rayon, settlement, village and all soviets, and on the decrees of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium submitted for the Supreme Soviet's endorsement was delivered by Deputy Absyeva, Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary.

Corresponding laws and decisions were adopted on the report. The Supreme Soviet relieved Comrade Abdukarimov of the duties of chairman of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium. The floor was offered to Comrade Kunayev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee first secretary. On behalf of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee and Supreme Soviet Presidium Comrade Kunayev moved to elect deputy Imashev as Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman. The Supreme Soviet unanimously elected Deputy Imashev as Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman. With this the 11th Session of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet completed its proceedings.

'IMMEDIATE' IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET RAILROADS' PERFORMANCE URGED

ID271431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Dec 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "An Efficient Rhythm for Railroads"]

[Text] It is the last month of the working year. Production collectives are already analyzing exactingly the results of their economic activity and mobilizing their efforts for the successful completion of their plan targets and socialist pledges. The tension on the last lap can be felt particularly keenly on the railroads. The railroad workers have to eliminate the lag they have allowed to occur, accelerate shipments of fuel, ore, timber and other very important freight and thus promote efficient work of all sectors.

Speaking at the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev sharply criticized the leaders of the Ministry of Railways, and the leaders of other departments, noting the immediate need to put the railroads in order and to strengthen discipline in all sectors of the transport process. Party and soviet organs and sector staffs are required to concern themselves with these problems on a daily basis.

An important reserve for improving the work of transport is accelerating turnaround time and insuring efficient and at the same time careful use of rolling stock. Facts bear out that railroad workers and industrial workers have been unable to achieve a marked reduction in the freighter waiting time at stations and in sidings in the first 4 years of the 5-year plan and have not learned everywhere to maneuver unloaded freight cars skillfully. For instance, the Osetrovskiy river port has become a unique "settling tank" for cars. Long waiting periods are allowed at Far Eastern sea ports. At the Uvarovo chemical plant each car is detained for loading and unloading for over 30 hours instead of the standard 7 hours. Reserves for dispatching about 7 million tons of freight were lost this year because of regular holdups of rolling stock in the sidings of ferrous metallurgy enterprises. Dozens of cars go out of commission every day at mines and quarries and in the transport bays of industrial enterprises and construction sites. The leaders of railroads, enterprises and organizations must step up control over the safekeeping of rolling stock and call strictly to account those guilty of thriftlessness.

Rhythmic operation of transport depends largely on efficient collaboration between railroad workers and freight dispatchers. Unfortunately such coordination is frequently lacking. For instance, in the last days of the fall this factor caused less freight than necessary to be dispatched on the Donetsk, Northern, North Caucasus, Transbaykal, Alma-Ata, Kemerovo and Virgin Land mainlines. Enterprises frequently show no concern to organize loading and unloading work on days off. Thus, on the railroads of Siberia and the Far East 5,000 cars fewer than planned have been unloaded every day.

There has long been an urgent need to draft a complex of effective measures to erect reliable barriers in the way of those who waste freight car time and insure the complete safekeeping of the pool, both in industrial enterprise sidings and on Ministry of Railways lines. The existing system of fines for above-norm turnaround times is no longer valid and has perhaps become a delaying factor in combatting holdups. The point is that ministries and departments earmark money to pay fines for production collectives through centralized channels. It would be different if stoppages were made from enterprise incentive fund payments and if money were withheld from those specifically to blame for losses, to pay for damage caused, and if transport work were assessed on the basis of how well its personnel help plants to fulfill orders and contracts. It is also time to stop the practice of mass hiring out of cars belonging to Ministry of Railways, since the new owners of the rolling stock are in practice not responsible for their turnaround time.

Accelerating rolling stock turnaround means increasing the railroads' resources without additional capital investments. How can this task best be resolved? It is clear what a comprehensive approach is needed here. One substantial reserve lies in increasing speed of movement on mainlines. In recent years transport workers have been little concerned for this. The situation must be corrected. Now, in the winter, it is important to prepare freight better for shipment, particularly coal, ore and fluxes, to treat it with special antifreeze agents and to dry and pack it properly to avoid waste. Every case of car damage must be a subject for the attention of people's control workers, be examined in the production collectives and receive a principled party assessment.

The CPSU Central Committee November Plenum set the task of improving the transport situation in the immediate future. The pool of diesel and electric locomotives must be supplemented immediately, the quality of car repair must be improved, and station facilities must be developed more rapidly. With the long term in mind, it is planned to elaborate a comprehensive forward program for the transport development which will include the best achievements of scientific and technical thought. This program is to cover questions of the development and coordination of all types of shipments and provide for the modernization of railroads, preferential growth rates for pipeline, river and motor transport, and the mechanization of loading and unloading.

Party organizations are called on to keep a constant eye on the efficient use of the car pool and to take under unremitting control the solution of current and long-term problems of railroad operations. Communists working in transport must set an example in practical assimilation of the CPSU Central Committee-approved experience of enterprises and organizations in Chelyabinskaya Oblast, where a high return on transport facilities has been achieved. It is time to make leaders answerable in a principled, party manner in areas where above-norm delays to rolling stock are allowed and cars are damaged. We cannot be reconciled to slovenliness or connivance, either in transport or on industry's freight fronts.

Not for nothing that is transport called the motive force of the economy. Improvement of its work, improvement of discipline and organization at all levels of the transport complex will have a beneficial effect on the results of other sectors of the national economy and will help to resolve the 10th 5-Year Plan targets successfully and to lay a good foundation for our economy's further development.

GORBACHEV REVIEWS ACHIEVEMENTS, TASKS OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

ID281515 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Dec 79 p 2 LD

[TASS report: "The Combat Headquarters of Agricultural Science: V. I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences (VASKhNiL) Awarded Order of Labor Red Banner"]

[Excerpt] The V. I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences is half a century old. The academy has been awarded the Order of the Labor Red Banner for services in the development of agricultural science and to mark the 50th anniversary of its founding. A VASKhNiL session to mark this great jubilee opened on 3 December in the Hall of Columns of Moscow's House of Unions.

Taking part in the proceedings were executives of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers, leaders of ministries and departments, representatives of the capital's public, foreign guests and leading agricultural production workers.

Those present elected with great enthusiasm an honorary presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev.

A speech was delivered at the session by M. S. Gorbachev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who was warmly received by those present.

Comrade M. S. Gorbachev's Speech

To the accompaniment of prolonged applause M. S. Gorbachev extended heartfelt congratulations to the participants in the jubilee session and to all the academy's scientists and employees on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, and wished them further creative successes.

The jubilee session has coincided with an important event in the life of the party and the country, he stressed. A CPSU Central Committee plenum and a USSR Supreme Soviet session have just been held. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's plenum address contained a profound analysis of the national economy's development and put forward an extensive action program for implementing the 25th CPSU Congress directives on questions relating to the party's economic policy. The main directions and sectors of work requiring the greatest concentration of effort by the party and people were mapped out. Special attention was given to accelerating scientific and technical progress and to further increasing the efficiency of social production and all quality indicators. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech raises in a principled, Leninist manner questions relating to the style and methods of organizational and political education work, cadres' responsibility for the tasks assigned to them, and the improvement of planning and economic administration.

The Academy of Agricultural Sciences is the country's highest scientific center in the sphere of agriculture, water resources and forestry. V. I. Lenin was instrumental in its foundation. In creating the academy the Soviet Government set itself the task of concentrating theoretical and practical work on the problems of advancing the country's agriculture and insuring its socialist reorganization.

During the years of socialist building truly profound transformations have taken place in the Soviet countryside on the basis of Lenin's agrarian policy. The country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes are now modern agricultural enterprises producing large marketable surpluses, with high-powered equipment and highly skilled cadres. All this has enabled our party and the Soviet state to raise agriculture to a qualitatively new level of development. Gross output in 1978 was 240 percent greater than in 1928, and labor productivity on kolkhozes and sovkhozes rose by 290 percent in the same period. Scientists have made a large contribution to the development of agricultural production. Those who were among the founders of modern agricultural science and who laid a firm and reliable basis for it command our deepest respect. They include the distinguished scientist and public figure K. A. Timiryazev, founder of the Soviet school of plant physiology, and VASKhNiL's first president, N. I. Vavilov, creator of a unique collection of plant seeds from all over the world and of the theoretical bases of selective seed growing. An enormous contribution to the theory and practice of kolkhoz and sovkhoz production was made by I. V. Michurin. Among others who worked at the All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences were the distinguished Soviet scientists N. M. Tulaykov, V. R. Vilyams, D. N. Pryanishnikov, P. P. Lukyanenko, V. S. Pustovoyt, K. I. Skryabin, M. F. Ivanov, Ye. F. Liskun, V. P. Goryachkin, A. N. Kostyakov and V. S. Nemchinov.

The scientists working today are continuing to develop and to deepen their predecessors' scientific ideas and to enrich agricultural science and practice with new conclusions and propositions. Among them are V. N. Remeslo, N. V. Tsitsin, P. F. Garkavyy, V. K. Milovanov and many others. A great contribution to the elaboration of the scientific principles of steppe and virgin-land farming was made by Honorary VASKhNiL Academician T. S. Maltsev and Academician A. I. Barayev, both of whom L. I. Brezhnev mentioned very warmly in his book "The Virgin Lands."

The CPSU Central Committee March (1965) Plenum was an important historical milepost in the development of the Soviet countryside's production forces. It set a course toward the cardinal solution of agriculture's urgent problems and the conduct of broad social transformations in the countryside, and laid down the principled bases of the CPSU's modern agrarian policy. That plenum's decisions created particularly favorable conditions for scientists to work creatively and for the impact of science on the growth of agricultural production to be increased. In recent years VASKhNiL scientists have taken a new step in elaborating theoretical premises and recommendations in the arable and stock-raising spheres, progressive new systems and technologies, and new ideas for improving forms and methods of labor and production organization. Scientists' achievements in the sphere of selective breeding, remote hybridization, physiology and agricultural engineering have received widespread recognition. All this has undoubtedly promoted the growth of field and farmstead production and improved utilization of the main production resource--the land.

An all-embracing program for the further development of agriculture was elaborated at the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum. That plenum raised with renewed force and Leninist style the question of creating large food stocks in our country and comprehensively substantiated the party policy of transforming agriculture into a highly developed sector of the economy. The program elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee plenum is notable for its scale, the wide range of problems it embraces and its comprehensive approach to their solution.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev personally makes an invaluable contribution to the elaboration of the current agrarian policy and its consistent practical implementation. On his initiative and with his direct participation the most urgent and crucial problems in the development of agriculture and the entire agroindustrial complex are raised and resolved.

In the light of the new tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum the role of science and the need to extend and deepen scientific research and further strengthen the ties between science and production increase still further.

Dwelling in detail on the next tasks confronting agricultural science, M. S. Gorbachev devoted much attention to the tasks of increasing stability in crop growing. Frequent and often considerable year-on-year fluctuations in harvests of grain, fodder and other arable produce slow down production and create certain difficulties in agriculture and throughout the economy. There are many questions here whose solution can and must be actively assisted by science. We should clearly support proposals for developing optimary crop-growing systems for the country's main zones, bearing in mind local conditions and using a modern scientific basis, to obtain stable harvests. The elaboration of such systems is a task for all the academies and for scientists in various branches of science.

Science is confronted by major tasks in the sphere of plant selection. Production needs strains of grain, fodder, industrial and other crops suitable for mechanized cultivation and harvesting, with shorter vegetation periods, resistant to disease and pests and with high quality characteristics.

In raising the efficiency and stability of agricultural production, the party attaches great significance to the development of comprehensive mechanization. The study and practical elaboration of questions linked with improving organization of the utilization of agricultural machinery in the countryside is a large field of activity in science. We are counting on our technical experts to work persistently, in conjunction with the machine builders, on improving and renewing machine design and increasing productivity and reliability.

Chemicalization is an effective and economical way of intensifying and raising stability in arable farming. Recently a unified agrochemical service was created within the agricultural organs system. Its tasks, in close contact with science, is to organize its work in such a way that kolkhozes and sovkhozes use efficiently every ton of organic fertilizer, every quintal of mineral fertilizer and every kilogram of chemical and obtain the greatest possible return on their utilization.

The scales of chemicalization of agriculture will be growing year by year in our country. It is very important to find ways of insuring scientifically the fuller utilization by plants of nutrients contained within fertilizers and to raise their efficiency coefficient. Taking account of the latest scientific data and the level of chemical utilization achieved, we must offer proposals for the scientifically substantiated distribution of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides according to natural and economic zones and the optimal norms for their application to the most important crops.

It is possible today to accelerate the resolution of the vegetable protein problem by expanding and improving the cultivation of protein-rich crops such as alfalfa, clover, soybeans, peas, lupin, rape and others. At the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum Comrade L. I. Brezhnev drew particular attention to the urgency of implementing measures on increasing fodder protein production.

There can be no doubt that science will make a weighty contribution in all these and other questions of the development of livestock raising and fodder production.

The present standard of development in agriculture, and the radical qualitative changes in the sector's production forces objectively require the further improvement of the economic management mechanism and in many cases a fundamentally new approach to the organization of agricultural production. A special role here will belong to deeper specialization and to combined efforts among farms to make broad use of the achievements of scientific and technical progress.

Agriculture now possesses vast potential, and large capital investments are being channeled into it. This is producing positive results. But agricultural production efficiency is increasing too slowly, and return is insufficient compared to investments. These problems were pointedly raised at the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum. Agricultural science must take a certain share of the blame here.

The party has adopted a number of organizational measures to improve the introduction into agriculture of the achievements of science, technology and leading experience. In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures To Further Raise the Efficiency of Agricultural Science and Strengthen Its Links With Production," planning has been improved and special subdivisions for introducing leading experience have been created in the system of agricultural organs.

In conclusion M. S. Gorbachev expressed confidence that scientists at the USSR Academy of Sciences, VASKhNiL and other scientific establishments, armed with Marxist-Leninist methodology and a profound knowledge of the laws of natural and social development, will make a new worthy contribution to the further development of agriculture and the solution of the task, put forward by the party, of transforming this most important sphere into a highly developed sector of the country's economy.

M. S. Gorbachev read out the decree awarding the Order of the Labor Red Banner to VASKhNiL and, amid prolonged applause from those present, attached the order to the academy's banner.

The role of land reclamation in the rapid development and increasing stability of agricultural has grown immeasurably. It is being conducted in our country on a scale unprecedented in world practice. In the last 14 years alone more than 9 million hectares of irrigated land and 19 million hectares of drained land has been commissioned. Land improvement work and pasture watering have been performed over large areas. It goes without saying that all this is already producing positive results. But these cannot fully satisfy us today.

During the implementation of the broad complex of land reclamation work, scientifically and technically complex problems and difficulties often arise affecting the interests of many sectors of the national economy. Their correct solution greatly determines the return on invested money, material and labor. For that reason it is extremely urgent to insure the expansion of theoretical and applied research in the land reclamation sphere, primarily in the direction of raising the efficiency of reclaimed land.

I would like to stress the need for scientific collectives to pay more attention to the practical implementation of the comprehensive program for transforming agriculture in the RSFSR's Non-Chernozem Zone as outlined by the party.

This zone has many scientific research institutions, VUZes, experimental stations and selective breeding centers, and a VASKhNiL branch has been created. The scientific institutions have the necessary cadres, they are allocated large sums of money, and their material and technical base is being strengthened. So we have a right to expect the scientists to produce timely and competent answers to questions posed by practice and to offer scientifically substantiated solutions taking into account the full diversity of the Non-Chernozem's natural and economic features.

Great scientific developments and generalizations are required in resolving the problems of increasing food production in the regions of Siberia and the Far East, where the assimilation of natural wealth is progressing today on a large scale, new cities are appearing and the population is growing rapidly. The CPSU Central Committee, the Government and L. I. Brezhnev personally attach tremendous significance to insuring that food requirements there are met as far as possible through local production. The successful realization of these great tasks will require the most active and specific help from science, primarily from the scientists of the Siberian branch of VASKhNiL.

The development of stockraising is now one of the most vitally important problems. The CPSU Central Committee July Plenum examined in depth specific measures aimed at the faster development of this sector. At the recent CPSU Central Committee November Plenum Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stressed that implementing the July plenum decisions and increasing meat production in the country is the primary obligation of party committees, soviet and economic organs, specialists and all working people employed in agriculture.

The main way of speeding up the development of stock-raising is through all-round intensification of its sectors, higher livestock and poultry productivity and transition in industrial production methods. The academies, scientific research and experimental establishments and scientists in various fields are expected to participate directly and even more actively in all these tasks.

In the light of the major new tasks in the stockraising sphere, questions of utilizing the potential of selective breeding and genetics assume exceptionally great significance. It is a question of the need constantly to improve the productive qualities of animals and create new highly productive types and strains of livestock and poultry adapted to industrial technologies. Clearly the major research in selective breeding and genetics and also veterinary science ought to be performed through comprehensive programs and be implemented by the joint efforts of scientific collectives from the USSR Academy of Sciences, VASKhNiL and the union republic academies.

This applies particularly to fundamental developments on the cardinal solution of the fodder problem, primarily in improving fodder quality, improving and sharply increasing efficiency in fodder production, and imparting a specialized sectorial character to it in conformity with the specific natural and economic zones and the production directions of farms.

We need not any old fodder, but fodder of full value in all respects. Let us take fodder protein. A chronic shortage of protein in rations leads to great overexpenditure of fodder and a shortfall in output and has a negative effect on livestock reproduction. Clearly we cannot manage here without a special targeted program.